IROQUOIS INDIANS:

A Documentary History of the Diplomacy of the Six Nations and Their League

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INTRODUCTION

This compilation is like none other in the world. It is an archive of documents made by and concerning a people without scribes, documents recorded by other parties and originally filed away obscurely in repositories devoted to other interests. Because the League of the Iroquois and its constituent Six Nations negotiated diplomatically with the agents of empires, provinces, and nation-states, as well as with other Indian nations, Iroquois treaty documents came to rest in The Netherlands, France, Great Britain, Canada, and the United States, and in many state and private collections, in all of which the Iroquois documents were secondary to the thousand and one concerns of Europeans and Euro-Americans. Now these many scattered collections have been culled to create the first authentic archive of an indigenous tribal people.

Strictly speaking, an archive consists of the documents generated by an agency or institution, but we may think in terms of an imaginary Iroquois foreign office whose papers were destroyed in an imaginary fire, being preserved only in the copies made for other parties to negotiations. With that fiction in mind, what we have here is a reconstituted archive. Regardless of problems of definition, it is a body of texts exceedingly important to genuinely reconstituting the history of the United States and its predecessor colonies and native peoples.

The Iroquois League was a great military and political power in North America during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Its importance was recognized by contemporary statesmen of competing European empires and colonies, who vied with each other to secure Iroquois friendship and alliance. After 1700, the Iroquois policy of neutrality maintained a balance of power between the empires that lasted until the Seven Years War, and the Iroquois nations were wooed by Britain and the United States during the War of the American Revolution. It is not possible to write a valid political history of eastern North America during the era preceding the Revolution without carefully considering Iroquois participation in the most important events of the time; and the basis of the Northwest Ordinances of 1784-87 was the treaty made at Fort Stanwix between the United States and the Iroquois in 1784.

Though the Iroquois League fragmented during the American Revolution and its people are now scattered on Canadian and American reservations, and individually as far as Hawaii, their history after the Revolution became inextricably part of the history of the Great Lakes region and of the vast intersocietal trade that moved westward across the continent. Defying dogmas of the vanishing Indian, more Iroquois are now alive than were previously recorded at any one time.

The major problem in studying Iroquois participation in North American history has been the scattered and unreliable condition of the source materials. A large number were virtually inaccessible. Most have never been validated by critical examination for omissions, variance between copies, or other contradiction by other contemporary documents. In national and state archives, Iroquois treaties are submerged in the general material, their arrangement and cataloging ill-suited to the study of indigenous peoples; and indexes are at best inadequate, often erroneous and misleading. There is continuing attrition of source manuscripts, identifiable by later references to documents that no longer can be found.

Now, however, most of the problems of access have been solved by the archive presented herein; and comparison of documents has been facilitated. The documents included were compiled by a project begun in September 1978 at the D'Arcy McNickle Center for the History of the American Indian at the Newberry Library. Funded for three years by the Research Division of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and staffed by a historian and three anthropologists with the assistance of many temporary aides, the project initially aimed at compiling less than 3,000 texts, but even the specialists had badly underestimated Iroquois diplomatic activity and its involvements. The documents piled up to three times the original estimate, and the project's actual duration extended past its formal closing for three more years. It has been completed nevertheless, largely owing to the dedicated support of the Newberry Library and donation of labor by the staff. Many generous contributions by individuals and institutions are acknowledged below.

Project staff made no effort to collect original source documents. Instead, it copied them by microphotography or xerography and made paper copies of all documents to be filed in an archive at the Newberry. This publication reproduces that archive. It is open to addition as new documents come to light, and students are solicited to send information about such new documents to the Newberry. The archive's calendar is available on a computer printout at the Newberry, and a card index of names and subjects refers to about one-sixth of the documents on file. Access may be had by qualified students. An indexed document is noted as such by a degree sign after the date of the document on the headnote to the document and in the calendar. Regrettably the index could not be completed because of lack of funds, but it is useful in combination with the calendar. Both are printed in the guide that accompanies this film. A reader may wish to scan the calendar for context before concentrating on particular documents. Calendar and index, especially when used together, are finding aids for the location of particular documents and sets of related documents.

ABOUT THE TEXTS

What They Are

The documents presented here include the minutes of treaty conferences, the agreements resulting from formal meetings, and a broad range of background materials useful for interpreting motives, procedures, and effects. The editors' basic standard for selection was relevance to the diplomatic history of Iroquois nations or their league. Other parties involved in the negotiations are also included.

Most of the documents are manuscript or printed texts arranged in chronological order. Often it has been possible to compile copies of the same text from different sources, and sometimes these are variant, sometimes significantly so. All copies are included. Texts in languages other than English are presented but only rarely translated.

Photographs of wampum belts are also included as representing Indian records of negotiations. In almost all instances, it has not been possible to identify a particular belt with a specific written record, and the editors have concluded regretfully that the belts cannot be deciphered by a general code. Nevertheless certain conventional patterns have been observed, so the belts are grouped according to emblematic content, following the last written text at the end of the microfilm publication.

The documents span a period from the earliest surviving sixteenth century texts through the year 1842.

How They Were Copied

The editors depended on many archives and repositories for exact xerographic copies of original documents in their possession. Their valuable cooperation was unstinted, but the variety of their facilities for copying prevented the adoption of a uniform reduction ratio. Therefore, although the final microfilming at Research

Publications was done at a constant reduction ratio, there is no constant relation between the relative size of documents on our film and the actual dimensions of the originals.

The integrity of the documents was the editors' foremost concern. No document has been altered. Very few extractions were made and they are noted in every case. No marks were made by us on copies received except, in some cases, for bold editorial lines with arrows, to denote the beginning and end of a document. Such indications were also used to note overlapping when a large page had to be copied in sections.

The editors aimed at comprehensiveness. This objective required inclusion of some texts so mutilated or faint in the original as to be minimally legible. These are given nevertheless for whatever information can be extracted from them. Some are more legible in the technically enhanced copies than in the originals.

As in all publications, the originals remain the ultimate source to be consulted when issues of textual validity arise. The location of every document is given in a headnote.

How They Are Presented

Each entry consists of a headnote with the document's date, a brief description, and the source, followed by the document itself. In a few cases a translation or annotation will follow the document.

Each headnote description reflects the perspective of the document rather than editorial comment about it. As descriptions were often taken from catalogs or notations of source repositories, spelling of names is not standardized. Editorial remarks, if present, appear in parentheses or annotations.

Bracketed dates have been assigned by the editors. Single documents are given with the date when written regardless of the time referred to in their contents. This has been done because documents are products of the time and circumstances when written, and these may seriously affect interpretation of the contents. To preserve textual integrity, some texts have been included as found in collections of documents spanning a period of time which is so dated: e.g., 1645-Sept 1654. Multiple copies of the same document, same date, are distinguished as Document I, Document II, etc., and filed in sequence under their common date.

If a document is dated more than one year from the date of the treaty to which it pertains, it is cross-referenced under the treaty date. Because of the prolonged nature of many treaty negotiations, users should scan the compilation's calendar to find appropriate documents within a year of any event of interest. Although cross-references refer to specific documents, distinguished by Roman numerals in cases in which there is more than one document of the same date, references to other documents in editorial remarks within descriptions of a particular document do not make use of Roman numerals to distinguish between documents of the same date. In these cases, all documents of the date cited should be checked for the reference.

The editors have not tried to reconcile or adjust dates in the Old Style Julian calendar used by the English for many years after the French and Dutch had changed over to the New Style Gregorian calendar. Dates are given herein as they appear on the documents. When the English finally changed over, they often gave both new and old dates on the same text; in such instances the editors opted for the New Style annotation.

The project staff has compiled and edited a printed reference manual to assist in interpreting the texts, and we urge that it be kept handy during research. It is The History and Culture of Iroquois Diplomacy: An Interdisciplinary Guide to the Treaties of the Six Nations and Their League (Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 1984). It is a volume for quick and easy reference, self-contained but especially useful in conjunction with this compilation of documents.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This archive could not have been compiled without the generous contributions of counsel and materials from many persons and agencies. No one is intentionally left out of the following list. Pardon is asked for any inadvertent omission.

Indian people: Early in the project, Richard Powless and Paul Williams of the Union of Ontario Indians provided a list of treaty documents. Seven persons from the Union of Ontario Indians visited the project from 23rd to 29th June 1979 and offered comments and suggestions. Phil Monture, Land Researcher at Six Nations Reserve shared knowledge of locations of source materials. George Abrams, Director of the Seneca Iroquois National Museum on the Allegany Seneca Reservation, and Ramona Charles, Librarian at the Community House on the Tonawanda Seneca Reservation, provided information about the location of materials. Tribal historians from different political persuasions on fellowship at the Center discussed the project with staff members during their residence: Norbert Hill and Sandra Orie came from the Oneida Reservation in Wisconsin, and Douglas George, recommended by the "traditional" Mohawk Nation, came from the St. Regis (Akwesasne) Reservation. Everett White, born and raised at St. Regis (Akwesasne), provided valuable information about documents based on his former experiences as an Indian Health Service employee and his personal interest in the history of his people. Most important information and advice were given on a visit by Cayuga Chief Jacob E. Thomas who represents the Cayuga nation in the Grand Council of the Houdenosaunee and teaches in Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario. On 22nd May 1980, Chief Thomas made a joint presentation with Dr. Michael K. Foster, Iroquoian Ethnologist of the Canadian National Museum of Man. At a colloquium at the Newberry, they showed slides and facsimile artifacts and explained symbols in terms of Iroquois custom. Through the following day, Chief Thomas held nonstop conversation with project staff who took extensive notes and taped his analyses of certain wampum belts. He continued

in correspondence afterward. Informal visitors to the project included Charles Patton and Tyler Hemlock, Caughnawaga (Kahnawake) Mohawks; and Alice Armstrong and Helen Laughing, Mohawks employed in the Demographic Office, Mohawk Tribal Offices, St. Regis Reservation.

When Associate Director Mary A. Druke traveled to Indian communities, she was received hospitably everywhere. Indians of Onondaga, including Oren Lyons, Irving Powless, Jr., and Irving Powless, Sr., though unsympathetic to the project, received her graciously and explained their attitudes. Information about documentary material and oral traditions were provided to her by residents of the following Indian communities: Allegany; Cattaraugus; Caughnawaga (Kahnawake), Onondaga, St. Regis (Akwesasne), Six Nations Reserve; Tonawanda; and Tuscarora.

Project Aides:

Consultants. Charles Gehring, of the New York State Library, Manuscripts, provided notes on Dutch manuscripts in the Livingston Family Papers at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library. Paul Stevens, a Fellow at the McNickle Center, compiled and annotated source documents of the era of the American Revolution. Another McNickle Center Fellow, Professor Richard Haan, contributed copies of odd documents he had been collecting for ten years. Mary Ann Mayes searched William N. Fenton's files and compiled a list of cited Iroquois documents. Lieutenant Commander C. McD. Stuart, RN, searched uncalendared treaty texts at the Public Record Office of Great Britain and arranged for transmission of copies. Paul Grey, graduate student at the University of London, acted as liaison between the project staff and the Public Record Office in acquiring documents ordered by the staff. Professional indexer Elin Christianson advised on indexing procedures. Major F.E.G. Bageshawe, of Matlock, England, provided photographs of a wampum belt in private hands.

Office employees at various times included Nancy Kovitz; Peter Radke; Polly Strong, University of Chicago graduate student; Andrew Tobin, Bennington College student; Karli Erica White. Wesley Andrews arranged much of the final organization of the archive files. The project was also helped by several students enrolled in undergraduate independent study seminars of the Association of the Colleges of the Midwest and the Great Lakes Colleges Association, whose wages were paid by the associations and the Newberry. David L. Ghere accomplished "last minute" tasks.

Volunteers included Claudette Alm; Jeanette Campanella; Lucy Caples; Herbert Furse; Ted Knutson; Nancy Kovitz; Dorothy Markowitz; Virginia Meyers; Noel O'Reilly; Mary Louise Ramsey; Mrs. Gerald Sivage. They sorted and identified the masses of documents arriving in the mails, and put them in order for editors' review.

Newberry Library staff. Special interest was maintained and special help provided by John Aubrey, Michael Kaplan, Steve Mandel, Terry Sullivan, and Michelene Fixico; and much gratitude is owed for the patience of Richard H. Brown.

Advice and information were exchanged with colleagues of the Atlas of Great Lakes Indian History project: Helen Hornbeck Tanner, Adele Hast, and Jacqueline Peterson. The members of the Conference on Iroquois Research and the American Society for Ethnohistory devoted three successive panel sessions to the project at annual meetings.

Institutions:

Special gratitude is owed to the Public Archives of Canada for its gift of copies of treaties and surrenders in its possession. Thanks must also be expressed to the Rochester [N.Y.] Museum and Science Center for its donation of photographs of its large collection of wampum belts. The University of Chicago made copyflo paper copies of microfilm at a minimal cost far below commercial prices. Research Publications sent a photographer without charge to film documents located at the Albany Institute of History and Art and at the New York State Archives in Albany. Work on the project was greatly facilitated by materials collected in research travel previous to the project and incorporated into project files. The American Philosophical Society made such research fellowship grants to Director Jennings and Associate Director Druke. Through such generous contributions, as well as time and energy given by individuals, the project managed to stay within its budget despite its massive increase in size. When the project could not be finished within its allotted three years, the Newberry Library financed it to completion.

Thanks are due to each repository, publication, or individual source of materials listed below which made available copies of materials in its collections. together they have made this publication possible.

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WHERE APPROPRIATE, DOCUMENTS AND WAMPUM BELTS IN THIS MICROFILM PUBLICATION ARE INCLUDED WITH THE KIND PERMISSION OF THE SOURCES LISTED ABOVE. IN OTHER INSTANCES, PERMISSION FOR INCLUSION WAS NOT GRANTED, AND IN THIS CASE, A REFERENCE TO THE DOCUMENT IS INCLUDED IN THE CALENDAR OF DOCUMENTS PUBLISHED IN THE GUIDE TO THIS COLLECTION. ON THE MICROFILM, A GAP IN THE SEQUENTIAL NUMBERING OF DOCUMENTS HEADED BY THE SAME DATE IS AN INDICATION OF A DOCUMENT DELETION DUE TO FAILURE TO OBTAIN REPRODUCTION PERMISSION.

Extract of a Letter from a Gentleman in the Oneida Country to Governor Clinton dated 11th January 1787-

The Chiefs (meaning the Oneida) have just now informed me of a Belt from the western tribes to the Senekee Sachems which gives them great pleasure; The purport of which is (as delivered to me by the Oneida Sachem) That Brandts meſsage to the warriors of the western tribes has been rejected with disdain— That the Sachems have sent down to the Senekees for their head men to attend a general Council with the western tribes for establishing peace— That the Shawanese at the same time had requested the aid and mediation of the western Chiefs to make a peace with Virginia, promiſing to make war no more— That the Shawanese had acknowledged themselves to be the ſole aggreſsors in the late Hostilities in that quarter.——

This piece of intelligence I communicate without their particular request, it did not occur to my mind while they were present.

Copy of a Letter from his Excellency Governor Clinton

Dated New York 29th. January 1787.

Sir

I have the honor of transmitting you inclosed an Extract of a Letter which I have just now received Dated the 11th. Instant from a Gentleman in the Oneida Country whose veracity may be depended upon, containing Intelligence of the very friendly temper and disposition of the western tribes of Indians, and even a favorable change of sentiment in the Shawanese which (if it ſhould be of no other use) I am persuaded will give you pleasure.

I am Sir
With great Respect
Your Most Obedient Servant
Geo: Clinton

The Honorable
Major General Knox.

Extracts from the indian speeches at the Western council and information by different parties transmitted by Genl. Richard Butler Superintendant of indian affairs for the northern department

Fort Pitt January 31st 1787

The Cornplanter arrived from his hunting camp paid a visit and requested a conference which was granted

Addreſs

Brother, I have been waiting to hear from the deputation which went from the six nations last fall to the Western tribes and to know the result of their councils &ca.-

Brother. You know that I told you that you should hear every thing which came to my ear, that I would hide nothing be it good or evil &ca

Brother, I have received a speech from Captain Brandt he tells me that he went with the whole of the deputation near to the head Shawanoe town and kindled a council fire &ca. That the Big Knife came and struck the Shawanoes which obliged them to break up their council and croſs the lake to the Huron village below and on the opposite side from Detroit. That he thinks this was wrong in the Big Knife to disturb the council fire. That some of the Shawanoes were killed &c. That chiefs of ten nations besides the six nations were present. The

councils

The councils have ended and he thinks the conclusions will be for the good of all the indian nations. The deputation are on their way home and we wish to see you as soon as possible try to bring all our people, who are on the Ohio above fort Pitt with you.

To this speech three strings of black wampum

Brother, I have told you what Brandt says from himself and the other chiefs. I would not go to the council without your consent as I will do nothing without your advice and consent &ca.

I then addressed the Cornplanter

Brother, I like what you say and advise you to go to the six nations, hear all you can and let me hear what they determine on early. But you had best stay till the people whom I have sent to the Wiandots return, You can then judge whether their accounts & Brandt's agree &c.

This he agreed to.

Febuary 10th 1787

Killbuck alias Colonel Henry arrived from the towns. He informs that a deputation of Delawares had been sent to the Chickasaws to see if they could get land from them to live on and to confederate with them &ca. Was well received but no land on the east side of the Mississippi an offer of land on the westside opposite the Ohio, with offers of friendship &ca. Introduced to the Spaniards, well received by them. Returned home well received by the Virginia officers at Post St Vincent on their way home, Gives account of a peace between a southern tribe called the Cawetas and the people of North Carolina &ca.: Pipe a chief of the Delawares being appointed to take care of the councils thanks to Congreſs. No particular speeches to send as the conclusion of the late council is gone by the way of the six nations to Congreſs, now looking towards me for news in consequence. Expects accounts will come to me in a short time That for my information he desires Killbuck to tell me that lastfall the deputation of the six nations collected the Western tribes near the Shawanoe towns, were prevented counciling by the Virginians, went over the lake, there came to conclusions to be peaceable with the United States and request a general meeting to settle every cause of complaint and fix boundaries &ca. But that Brandt as speaker first shewed them a sharp hatchet which he said had been given to the six nations by the British to strike the Americans with again. Found it did not please: then advised not to touch it, but hold fast by the treaties which had been made, propose a confederacy which is agreed to, addreſses the Wabash indians, tells them they must be quiet lest they fare as the Shawanoes have done, that if the whole should not incline to peace, recom-mends it to as many as can agree, to be peaceable: forbi horse stealing and murders, no pity to those who will not advised: tells the Wabash indians they dance the war dan and are too often the cause of mischief, bids them be quiet lest their fate be as that of the Shawanoes whom none pi or aſsist in their distreſs. pity their women and children, t must now join in the work of peace &c. Produces a larg belt of union, the whole aſsent and take hold of it. The then croſs to Detroit and addreſs the British Comman

Father, the English

You have been at war with t Americans, you have now made peace with them, but you have forgot or neglected us, you have made a line th the middle of the lakes and divided the lands, you hav never explained or told us the reason of this war in whi you involved us or did you ever inform us of the kind peace which you concluded with them but have hung d your heads and kept us in the dark and left us to g our way, you have by your conduct been our ruin, wh now makes our hearts sick and sorry.

Addreſs for Congreſs

Brothers, You kindled three council fires we did not all attend &c. We addreſs you the thirteen fires and the english together. The Lands on the north of the Ohio, were ours only, we know no right the english had to give them to you.

Listen Brothers! We have determined on peace with you, but it is our wish to have one general meeting with you at some proper place which we leave to you to appoint and wish it to be in a good season that we may be all able to attend and settle every cause of dispute &ca.

The propositions from Colonels Logan and Boon for an exchange of prisoners and threats in case of refusal &ca.

February 19th 1787.

The Cornplanter and two Mohawk chiefs who knew the instructions of the six nations to the deputation request to hear the report of Killbuck to judge whether it is delivered to the western tribes as was directed. Had it interpreted in presence of Killbuck; it is acknowledged to be right by the Mohawk chiefs except that part of the British giving the hatchet to strike the Americans.

The Cornplanter observes that the British Commandant refused to attend the council last summer and said all that Congress has said was but wind, and ridiculed it exceedingly.

A Chief called Captain Girty says an officer called Gach,go,wanno a nephew of the late Sr. William Johnson is the man who has been active in advising them to be at variance with the United States. This man has lost two horses by our people when at FortPitt, about the white prisoners and requests pay for them: he is a clever fellow and I think should be paid as he was on our business

February 22d. 1787.—

Allface and the Black Chief with their party arrived from the Wiandot towns and reports

That he went to lower Sandusky, was ill received by Thumm a white man adopted in a family and a chief who refused to give any accounts. Went from there to Upper Sandusky, was well received and got full information of the result of the Council. all to the same purpose as Killbuck reports; That of a general union from North to South and a wish for a meeting with us to settle all matters. The Wiachtenoes told the chiefs they were late coming but had directed the Twightees to enter into engagements for them. The Shawanoes said they had been unfortunate but not past all good, they were thrown down by the Big King but were much disposed to the general confederacy and to peace

The Chippawas for themselves and other tribes desire that the whole join in the confederacy and request a general meeting &c. The Wiandots say they believe in a God and should not say anything which is wrong. They say they do not know how their land has been disposed of on this side of the Ohio, the thirteen fires now claim it and are measuring it off and coming near to them, they wish how soon the Thirteen fires will give the nations a hearing that this matter may be settled and the people of this island be as one, perhaps this may be thought hard by Congreſs, if so when the sun sets we cannot tell whether the next day will be clear or cloudy.

The Pipe a Delaware chief speaks

I am glad to see the nations of this iſland become one people. The Wiachtinoes have been troublesome. I request my uncles (the six nations) to take him by the shoulders and bid him sit down and be quiet.

Pekoncheekelas the head warrior of the Delawares now speaks

It is my wish that all the warriors sit down quiet and give the councillors no more trouble, they have been the cause of much, let them now aſsist them and disturb them no more, but join as one and be at peace.

Brandt speaks

Nephews and young brothers

I am glad to hear the voice of all the nations present and that they have come to this conclusion. It is pleasing to your uncles and old brothe to find they have succeeded in what they came to do. I hope none of you have spoken with a tongue which differs from the sentiments of his heart

The council then broke up and they croſsed the river to Detroit and addreſsed the commandan as follows

Father

We have had a council among ourselves. It was entirely an indian council, but we think it right to let you know what we have been doing and concluded on

Father

The first thing we have to tell you is, that th whole of the people of our color on this island are combined as one. We are come to ask you what is become of our land. We are going to propose a general council with the Thirteen fires with whom we are now joining. There we expect will tell us truth if you dont, we are now looking toward them for justi and we tell you further, we believe that you have given away our land, and that it is your fault that we are depriv of it. We wish you to write to your great man at Montre and inform him of all that we have done. We intend to sen the whole to Congreſs and expect it will come round by the and from thence to you at this place. —

Thus ends the council speeches

The HalfKing's address to Allface and the others with him

Brothers

I am very glad to see you and to hear from Guisoto and the superintendant of the indians Tell them that I have told you all I know of the council and intentions of the indians of this quarter and I wish you to remember it all

two white strings of wampum

Allface then speaks for himself and party

Brother

You desired me to be very particular and treasure up all I could hear or find out in the west. I have faithfully told you all I have heard and seen. I now tell you that I have lost three children among the Shawanoes by the Big Knife, I want you to get them returned to me, I have long since returned all yours as you desired at the last treaties. I tell you again that I have told you all that I have heard and that, I think the warriors have determined to do no more mischief and I desire you to inform your people that they have nothing to fear from them, and I hope they will be careful and not hurt the indians but treat them as friends and brighten peace

a Black and white string

A number of queries which were answered tolerably satisfactorily.

The Cornplanter speaks

Brother

I have now heard all the all the accounts from every quarter. There is some small differenc in parts but nothing of consequence. It appears to be the wish of all the nations that Congreſs (The Thirteen Fires) give them an opportunity of a general meeting that ever thing may be settled. I think it would be of great use to the whole of the people of this country both white and yellow I therefore hope you will inform Congreſs as soon as poſsible that they may know the thoughts of the six and other nations Should Congreſs agree to this proposal and comply with our wishes and any nation refuse or neglect to attend they should never be thought worthy to be called again.

A White string

The people of the country being anxious to know the news from the west and what appearance there might be of peace with the indians. I had a meeting of the Chiefs and others in the council house where a very considerable number of the inhabitants attended when Giosoto and another chief spoke the purport of the above accounts which gave great satisfaction.

This was on the 24th February 1787.

The Cornplanter closed the whole of this busineſs with the following speech.

Brothers and you who take care of the council fire

Hear me speak, What I shall say comes from my heart.

You have heard the determination of all our tribes at the late council. They tell you that you have nothing to fear from them, it is alſo my opinion that you have nothing to apprehend. They say they wish a general meeting that every matter of uneasineſs may be settled: perhaps Congreſs may think this proposal is made to get a great quantity of goods as has been usual on these occasions and that the expence will be too great. I hope they will not think this for if there should be no goods it is not only their wish but mine that a meeting may take place, and I wish Congreſs to be strong and comply with this request. and I request you the superintendant to preſs it strongly to Congreſs. Many of the indians must come a long way to it and can have no reward but that of doing good. I therefore hope expence will not be an objection with Congreſs

A White string —

The People Of the STATE of NEW-YORK,
By the Grace of GOD, Free and Independent:

TO ALL to whom theſe Preſents ſhall come, Greeting: KNOW YE, That WE HAVE Given, Granted and Confirmed, and by theſe Preſents, DO Give, Grant and Confirm, unto *James Deane in purſuance of an Act entitled "An Act for the speedy Sale of the unappropriated Lands within this State and for other purposes therein mentioned." Paſsed the 5th of May 1786. All the following Tract of Land to wit Beginning at a certain place where the West Line of the Patent of Coxborough croſses the Stream or Brook formed by the Junction of the Streams or Brooks called Kanaghtarageara and Kanyonshotta, it being one of the Branches of the Oriskany Creek or River [illegible] running thence North twenty four degrees and thirty minutes West forty Chains, thence South sixty five degrees and thirty Minutes West, one hundred and sixty Chains thence South twenty four degrees and thirty Minutes East, one hundred and sixty Chains thence North sixty five degrees and thirty Minutes East one hundred and sixty Chains thence on a direct Line to the place of Beginning*

TOGETHER with all and ſingular the Rights, Hereditaments and Appurtenances to the ſame belonging, or in any Wiſe appertaining, EXCEPTING and RESERVING to ourſelves, all Gold and Silver Mines, and five Acres of every Hundred Acres of the ſaid Tract of Land for Highways. To HAVE AND TO HOLD the above deſcribed and granted Premiſes unto the ſaid *James Deane his* Heirs and Aſſigns, as a good and indefeaſible Eſtate of inheritance, for ever. On CONDITION NEVERTHELESS, That within the Term of ſeven Years to be computed from the firſt Day of January next enſuing the Date hereof, there ſhall be one actual Settlement made on the ſaid Tract of Land hereby granted *for every six hundred and forty Acres thereof* otherwiſe theſe our Letters Patent, and the Eſtate hereby granted, ſhall ceaſe, determine and become void. IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have cauſed theſe our Letters to be made patent, and the Great Seal of our ſaid State to be hereunto affixed. WITNESS Our truſty and well-beloved GEORGE CLINTON, Eſquire, Governor of our ſaid State, General and Commander in Chief of all the Militia, and Admiral of the Navy of the ſame, at our City of *New-York*, this *Sixth* Day of *February* in the Year of our *LORD* One Thouſand Seven Hundred and Eighty *seven* and in the *Eleventh* Year of our *INDEPENDENCE*.

Approved of by the Commiſſioners of the Land-Office, and paſſed the Secretary's Office, the 6th Day of February 1787 — } *Lewis A. Scott Secretary*

Word sixty being interlined between the 8th & 9th lines

Geo: Clinton

War Office, February 23'rd 1787.

Sir.

I have the honor to tranſmit to your Excellency, a copy of a letter just received from the Superintendant of indian affairs for the northern department, dated at Fort Pitt the 31'st ultimo.

As soon as Congreſs shall have decided on the general inſtructions for the Superintendants, they shall be immediately forwarded to him, as he conceives them eſsential to a right diſcharge of the duties of his department.

I have the honor to be,
Your Excellency's,
Most obedient and
very humble Servant.
H Knox

His Excellency
The President of Congreſs.

Copy of a letter from Richard Butler Esquire superintendant of indian affairs for the northern department dated

Fort Pitt January 31st 1787.

Sir

Although I have so lately had the honor of writing you I cannot omit so good an opportunity as captain Hutchins to inform you that I have this day had a short conference with the cornplanter alias captain Abeel who informs me that captain Brant and other chiefs of the six nations that were sent last fall from their people to the western nations have sent him an account nine days ago that the intention of that deputation was by no means hostile to the interest of the United States but to collect the general sense of the western indians on the present state of their affairs and to put a stop to further mischiefs: That at the very time they were in council Colonel Logan struck the Shawanees at whose towns they were gathered which put a total stop to their proceedings for the season. That the nations mentioned are to send a deputation to the six nations early next spring at which time it is intended to form a general plan of accommodation and pacification with the United States and that the indians are determined to be influenced against the United States by no councils whatever but be governed entirely by their own judgement, with some other matters which he slightly touched on but has not yet been sufficiently explained. He also mentions that he is invited to the above council which I have advised him for good reasons to attend.

Captain Hutchins's time is so short that the business cannot be entirely gone through before he sets out, or have the expresses sent by me to the Sanduske or other towns yet returned therefore cannot be so explicit in this as I hope to be in my next which shall be in a few days or as soon as these people return that I may compare accounts

I only beg leave to add that I am so much at a loss for instructions that it is not possible for me to go so far or to do what I think should be done very early in the season as I am much of opinion it will be a good time to settle matters generally. Yet I am determined to do all in my power under my restrictions for the peace and interest of the public.

Letter 23 Feby 1787
Secy at War
Read 26 Feby

Transmitting letter Jany 21
1787 - from Superintt of Indn
affairs. N: departt

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the said lands to
our posterity; We ag
on the same River, to
Robert Nilles, Warner N
Young, Daniel Young, N
Dochsteder, Hendrick N M
hold a farm each, according ance, which
now mark their possessions ng the banks of
the said River, which they are by no means to
exceed either up or down the stream, and con-
nuing of the same breadth, the said farms a
to extend in length three miles back from th
said Rivers bank.

Of this extent we confirm to them
and their posterity, the full right to have and
to

(201)

Translation of a Deed from the Five Nations inhabit- the Grand River.

Let it be known to all now and henceforth what is now agreed to and performed by us, mutual brethren and children of the Five Nations, and our nephews of the Delaware race living on the Oghswego or Grand River, in full Council in which assembled Mohawks, Oniadas, Onondagas, Cayugwas, and Delawars.

Therefore let it be known by all, that in Vertue of a grant of this Grand River made unto us by Sir Fred. Haldimand Governor, in the Kings name which he has given us in writing his Name and seal thereunto affixed, co the said lands upon us the Five Natio our posterity; We agree that our brethren living on the same River, to wit Hendrick Nelles Robert Nelles, Warner Nelles, Adam Young, John Young, Daniel Young Hendrick Young, John Dochsteder, Hendrick Huff, John Huff, shall hold a farm each, according to the boundaries which now mark their possessions along the banks of the said River, which they are by no means to exceed either up or down the stream, and continuing of the same breadth, the said farms are to extend in length three miles back from the said Rivers bank.

Of this extent we confirm to them and their posterity, the full right to have and to hold the same in their respective families to wit, to Hendrick Nellis Robert Nellis Warner Nellis, Adam Young, John Young Daniel Young, Hendrik Young John Dochstader, Hendrick Huff, John Huff, to be possessed by them and their posterity and never to be transferred to any Other whomsoever.

This being done and concluded by us the Five Nations and our Nephews the Delawares, let never our Grand Children or any whomsoever attempt to undo what we have by this instrument performed for we have done the same with due consideration In the Year of our Lord 1787. and 26th day of February and to confirm the same we hereunto affix our hands and emblems of our tribes

Thomas Satekarewate
Hendrick Tekarihogea
Aaron Hill
Jos. Brant Thayeadanegea
Johannes Tiweghnitogieagh
David Hill
Paulus Sahonwadi
Thomas Davis
+ Thomas Shoghsgoharowane
+ Kayeadadihor
+ Adam* Thaweyakearat
+ David Aghsigwarisere
+ Hendrick Orondadeckha
+ Jacobus Oghronwaghtayeghte
John Atoghserangegh
Tekaenyough

* omitted, the signature of David Oseragighte

× Karenghodon
× Oghkwarighoghsita
× Oraghgwanindagon
× Onighniasagwadon
× Aweanaratye

True Translation
John Norton

1787

To the Cheifs and Warriors of the Six Nations

Brethren—

I embrace the oppertunity of Guientohkie the corn planter to inform you that it has been the pleasure of Congress to appoint me Superintendant of Indian affairs for the Northern district of the ~~United States~~ which comprehends the Country from the Hudson river West between the Ohio river and the middle of the Lakes the northern boundary of the United States to the Mississippi river, and that my present residence is at Fort Pitt it being a ~~central~~ good position between your nations, and the Western tribes.

I also inform you that it is expected by Congress that all communications which your nations or any other of the Indian tribes may have to make to them will ~~be~~ be first sent to me or to a deputy whom I am authorized to appoint to reside near you and you may rest assured ~~they~~ that your Speeches shall be faithfully

transm-

Copy [illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible] 28th 1787 by the
corn planter

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Transmitted to Congress; and their Answers returned to you — I have given the western nations the same information which I now give to you, And ~~I shall~~ will hereafter expect your and their communications on all matters of a Public nature —

I have heard that the ~~[illegible]~~ Chief ~~[illegible]~~ sent from your council fire last fall to the West, have come to some conclusions of a Public nature with the western tribes at a Council at Detroit but I have not yet Receiv'd their advices respecting these determinations in the usual formal ~~or offi-~~ ~~-al~~ manner as was promised by the Wiandots. Therefore can say nothing on them; but, I wish to hear them formally ~~officially~~ from you that I may inform Congress early of your general determinations at that council — At present I shall only recommend Peace, and that you take the greatest care of the conduct of your young people that they do no injury to the Citizens of the United States, And in case of licenced Traders citizens of the U.S. coming amongst you that you give them the most ample protection, by which means you will soon be supplied with goods on the most reasonable terms.

I am pleased that you have taken The beaver Gui,en,tah,kie by the hand to lead him to your Council fire, and I have advised him to be strong and go to it — he is a man of sense & is well informed of the disposition of Congress & the people of the U.S. toward your nations and the Indians in general, And Congress have not only given him & the people who went with him Capt Summers an audience, but have shewn him the original Treaty between great Briton & the U.S. signed by the king with the great seal of the nation to it, And assured him of their friendly wishes to all the Indian nations.

I have informed him that Col. William Butler is the person to whom speeches may be addressed at this place in

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in case of my absence —

I am happy to inform you that I have found the chiefs and young men of the different Indian tribes in this quarter behave very well & that they seem disposed to peace, and I have reason to think they will continue so and support a good understanding with the citizens of the U.S. which will give me great pleasure to cultivate — A belt —

I now send you my best
wishes and profess myself
Your friend and Brother
Richard Butler
Superintendent of
Indian Affairs for
the N. D.

Fort Pitt
Feby. 28th 1787 —

To

The Chiefs and Warriors of the Six Nations
in Council —

By Guienstohkie

This Indenture [illegible] of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty seven
Little Beard Big Tree Nenuch Cauwe Spruce Carrier Conondecta Tymwanyas Okeawasha and Eyandatyges Chiefs of the Syne
of York State Simon Spalding John Shepard Matthias Hallenback Obadiah Gore and Elijah Buck of Tyoga in the State of Penn
sylvania [illegible] and John Battle of York State of the other part Witnesseth that they the said Little Beard Big Tree Nenuch C
Consideration of two thousand five hundred Dollars ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~
Bridsewell Simon Spalding John Shepard Matthias Hollenback Obadiah Gore Elijah Buck Harris Jones Lawrence Tremper Jos
Covenants and delivery hereof the Receipt whereof they do hereby Acknowledge and Payment of the Yearly Rents hereafter
Released and Confirmed and by these presents do and each of them doth grant Bargain sell Release and Confirm unto
Obadiah Gore Elijah Buck Harris Jones Lawrence Tremper Joseph Smith Henry Tremper John Lambert Caleb Benton and
Creek or Connowlohorra on the Tioga thence North forty five degrees east to the Top of the Mountain east of the said Creek
until it Strikes the Pennsylvania line thence on said line to the Seventy Nine Mile stone from thence a northerly course to
Immunities Hunting Places and Appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining To have a
[illegible] granted with the Appurtenances unto the said Benjamin Bridsewell Simon Spalding John Shepard Matt
Henry Tremper John Lambert Caleb Benton and John Battle their heirs and Assigns to the only proper use and bene
Obadiah Gore Elijah Buck Harris Jones Lawrence Tremper Joseph Smith Henry Tremper John Lambert Caleb Benton an
paying therefor unto the said Little Beard Big Tree Nenuch Cauwe Spruce Carrier Conondecta Tymwanyas Okeawasha an
Nations Yearly and every Year on the first day of May the rent of ten Bags of Powder of twenty weight e
and the said Little Beard Big Tree Nenuch Cauwe Spruce Carrier Conondecta Tymwanyas Okeawasha and Eyan
do Covenant Promise grant and agree to and with the said Benjamin Bridewell Simon Spalding John Shepard
Smith Henry Tremper John Lambert Caleb Benton and John Battle their heirs and Assigns by these presents
Hollenback Obadiah Gore Elijah Buck Harris Jones Lawrence Tremper Joseph Smith Henry Tremper John Lambert
Yearly Rent hereby Reserved in every year during said Term aforesaid shall or lawful may from time to time
have held use Occupy and possess and enjoy the said Tract piece or parcell of Land hereby granted with the
the Lawful let suit Trouble Hindrance Molestation or interruption of them the said Little Beard Big Tree Nenuch Ca
or other of them or any of the Synekee and Cayuga Nations or any person lawfully claiming under them In
Conondecta Tymwanyas Okeawasha and Eyandatyges have hereunto unto set our hands and seals at Can
and eighty seven

Sealed and Delivered
In the presence of us....
[illegible] the words [illegible] down to the [illegible]
were first interlined before execution
&

[illegible] Thomas
[illegible]
Jonas [illegible]

Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty seven and in the Twelfth Year of the Independence of the United States of America Between
[illegible] and Cyandatages Chiefs of the Synekee and Cayuga Nations living at the Senecas Country of the one part and Benjamin B[illegible]
[illegible] and Elijah Buck of Tioga in the State of Pennsylvania and Harris Jones Lawrence Semper Joseph Smith Henry Semper John Lambert
the said Little Beard, Big Tree Nemich Cauwe Spruce Carrier Conondeeta Tymwaunyas Ocheawasha and Cyandotadages for and
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ unto them well and truly in hand paid by the aforesaid Benjamin
Elijah Buck Harris Jones Lawrence Semper Joseph Smith Henry Semper John Lambert Caleb Benton and John Bartle at and before
payment of the Yearly Rents hereafter Reserved and made payable Have and each of them Hath granted Bargained and Sold
Bargain sell Release and Confirm unto the said Benjamin Budeswell Simon Spalding John Shepard Matthew Hollenback
Semper John Lambert Caleb Benton and John Bartle All that Tract of land beginning at a narrows about six miles above [illegible]
top of the Mountain east of the said Creek thence east until it strikes the Owego [illegible] to the Susquehanna river thence down the said river
Mile stone from thence a northerly course to the place of Beginning Together with all the rights Liberties Privileges Members
ing or in any wise appertaining To Have and to Hold the said Tract piece or parcel of Land and Hereditaments hereby granted to
swell Simon Spalding John Shepard Matthew Hollenback Obediah Gore Elijah Buck Harris Jones Lawrence Semper Joseph Smith
Assigns to the only proper use and behoof of the said Benjamin Budeswell Simon Spalding John Shepard Matthew Hollenback
Henry Semper John Lambert Caleb Benton and John Bartle their heirs and Assigns for ever as Tenants in Common Yielding
Carrier Conondeeta Tymwaunyas Ocheawasha and Cyandotadages their Successors or Assigns for the use of the said Synekee and Cayuga
[illegible] twenty eight each and four hundred Weight of Lead ~~~~~~ if the same shall be demanded
Conondeeta Tymwaunyas Ocheawasha and Cyandotadages for themselves and their Successors and for the whole Synekee and Cayuga Nations
Budeswell Simon Spalding John Shepard Matthew Hollenback Obediah Gore Elijah Buck Harris Jones Lawrence Semper Joseph
their heirs and Assigns by these presents that they the said Benjamin Budeswell Simon Spalding John Shepard Matthew
Joseph Smith Henry Semper John Lambert Caleb Benton and John Bartle their heirs or Assigns or some of them paying the said
at which it ought may from time to time or may at all times hereafter during the term aforesaid justly peaceably and Quietly
piece of Land hereby granted with the Appurtenances and Receive and take the rents Issues and Profits thereof without
them the Little Beard Big Tree Nemich Cauwe Spruce Carrier Conondeeta Tymwaunyas Ocheawasha and Cyandotadages or any
person lawfully claiming under them In Witness whereof we the said Little Beard Big Tree Nemich Cauwe Spruce Carrier
hereunto set our hands and seals at Canadasago this fifth of March in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred

Tymwaun his yas Mark

Ochea his washa Mark

Cyandat his adages Mark

Con his deeta Mark

Little his Beard Mark

[illegible] his [illegible] Mark

Nemich his Cauwe Mark

Spruce his Carrier Mark

Conon his deeta Mark
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

To all People to Whom these Presents shall Come Greeting Know ye that we the under signed for the sum of three Thousand Dollars to us in hand paid by Jeremiah Halsey Esqr of Preston in the County of New London and State of Connecticut Received to our full Satisfaction do therefore hereby Convey and Assign over the Within Written Lease to him the said Jeremiah Halsey Esqr and to his heirs and assigns forever Together with all our Right Title Interest and Estate which we have in and by vertue of the within Written Lease

In Testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands and Seals this Third day of [illegible] one thousand seven hundred and Ninety-six

Simon Spalding
Obadiah Gore
[illegible]
Mathias Hollenback
John Shepard

Signed [illegible] Present at the Signing by Simon Spalding Obdh Gore & John Shephard

[illegible]

Joseph Crandle

This Indenture made the fifth day of March in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty seven and in the Twelfth Year of the Independence of the United States of America Between Little Beard Big Tree Kenuck Canoe Spruce Carrier Conondicta Tymwaunyas Ockeawasha and Cyandodesgus Chiefs of the Seneca and Cayuga Nations living at the Genesee Country of the one part and Benjamin Bridewell of [illegible] Simon Spalding John Shepard Matthias Hollenback Obadiah Gore and Elijah Buck of Tioga in the State of Pennsylvania and Harris Jones Lawrence Tremper Joseph Smith Henry Tremper John Lambert Caleb Benton and John Bortle of the State of the other part Witnesseth that they the said Little Beard Big Tree Kenuck Canoe Spruce Carrier Conondicta Tymwaunyas Ockeawasha and Cyandodesgus for and in Consideration of [illegible] hundred Pounds ~~~~~~~~ to them well and truly in hand paid by the aforesaid Benjamin Bridewell Simon Spalding John Shepard Matthias Hollenback Obadiah Gore Elijah Buck Harris Jones Lawrence Tremper Joseph Smith Henry Tremper John Lambert Caleb Benton and John Bortle at and before the sealing and delivery hereof the receipt whereof they do hereby acknowledge and Payment of the Yearly Rent hereafter Reserved and made payable Have and each of them Hath granted Bargained and sold Released and Confirmed and by these presents do and each of them doth grant Bargain sell Release and Confirm unto the said Benjamin Bridewell Simon Spalding John Shepard Matthias Hollenback Obadiah Gore Elijah Buck Harris Jones Lawrence Tremper Joseph Smith Henry Tremper John Lambert Caleb Benton and John Bortle All that Tract of Land beginning at a [illegible] creek [illegible] miles above the creek Connowehhiria on the Tioga branch North sixty [illegible] degrees east to the Top of the Mountain east of the said Creek thence east until it strikes the [illegible] river thence down the river until it strikes the Pennsylvania line thence on said line to the Seventy Nine Mile stone from thence a northerly course to the place of Beginning Together with all the rights Liberties Privileges Franchises Immunities Hunting Places and Appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining To have and to hold the said Tract piece or parcel of Land and Hereditaments hereby granted or mentioned to be granted with the Appurtenances unto the said Benjamin Bridewell Simon Spalding John Shepard Matthias Hollenback Obadiah Gore Elijah Buck Harris Jones Lawrence Tremper Joseph Smith Henry Tremper John Lambert Caleb Benton and John Bortle their heirs and Assigns to the only proper use and behoof of the said Benjamin Bridewell Simon Spalding John Shepard Matthias Hollenback Obadiah Gore Elijah Buck Harris Jones Lawrence Tremper Joseph Smith Henry Tremper John Lambert Caleb Benton and John Bortle their heirs and Assigns forever as Tenants in Common Yielding paying therefor unto the said Little Beard Big Tree Kenuck Canoe Spruce Carrier Conondicta Tymwaunyas Ockeawasha and Cyandodesgus their Successors or Assigns for the use of the said Seneca and Cayuga Nations Yearly and every Year on the first day of May the rent of ten Kegs of Powder of twenty weight each and four hundred Weight of Lead ~~~~~~~~ of the same [illegible] and the said Little Beard Big Tree Kenuck Canoe Spruce Carrier Conondicta Tymwaunyas Ockeawasha and Cyandodesgus for themselves and their Successors and for the whole Seneca and Cayuga Nations do Covenant Promise grant and agree to and with the said Benjamin Bridewell Simon Spalding John Shepard Matthias Hollenback Obadiah Gore Elijah Buck Harris Jones Lawrence Tremper Joseph Smith Henry Tremper John Lambert Caleb Benton and John Bortle their heirs and Assigns by these presents that they the said Benjamin Bridewell Simon Spalding John Shepard Matthias Hollenback Obadiah Gore Elijah Buck Harris Jones Lawrence Tremper Joseph Smith Henry Tremper John Lambert Caleb Benton and John Bortle their heirs and Assigns they paying the said Yearly Rent hereby Reserved in every year during said Term aforesaid shall or lawful may from time to time or may at all times hereafter during the term aforesaid peaceably and quietly have hold use Occupy and possess and enjoy the said Tract piece or parcel of Land hereby granted with the Appurtenances and Receive and take the Rents Issues and Profits thereof [illegible] without the lawful Hindrance Molestation or interruption of them the said Little Beard Big Tree Kenuck Canoe Spruce Carrier Conondicta Tymwaunyas Ockeawasha and Cyandodesgus or either of them or any of the Seneca and Cayuga Nations or any person lawfully claiming under them In Witness whereof we the said Little Beard Big Tree Kenuck Canoe Spruce Carrier Conondicta Tymwaunyas Ockeawasha and Cyandodesgus have hereunto set our hands and seals at Canadasego this fifth of March in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty seven

Sealed and Delivered
In the presence of us
[illegible]

This Indenture made the fifth day of March in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty seven and in the Twelfth Year of the Independence of the United States of America Between Little Beard Big Tree Nenuck Cawue Spruce Carrier Conondecta Tynwanyas Okeawasha and Cyandatages Chiefs of the Seneca and Cayuga Nations living at the Seneca Country of the one part and Benjamin Bridewell of [illegible] State Simon Spalding John Shepard Matthias Hollenback Obadiah Gore and Elijah Buck of Tioga in the State of Pennsylvania and Harris Jones Lawrence Tumper Joseph Smith Henry Tumper John Lambert Caleb Benton and John Bartle of York State of the other part Witnesseth that they the said Little Beard, Big Tree Nenuck Cawue Spruce Carrier Conondecta Tynwanyas Okeawasha and Cyandatages for and in consideration of [illegible] Dollars ~ to them well and truly in hand paid by the aforesaid Benjamin Bridewell Simon Spalding John Shepard Matthias Hollenback Obadiah Gore Elijah Buck Harris Jones Lawrence Tumper Joseph Smith Henry Tumper John Lambert Caleb Benton and John Bartle at and before the sealing and delivery hereof the receipt whereof they do hereby acknowledge and Payment of the Yearly Rents hereafter Reserved and made payable Have and each of them Hath granted Bargained and sold Released and Confirmed and by these presents do and each of them doth grant Bargain sell Release and Confirm unto the said Benjamin Bridewell Simon Spalding John Shepard Matthias Hollenback Obadiah Gore Elijah Buck Harris Jones Lawrence Tumper Joseph Smith Henry Tumper John Lambert Caleb Benton and John Bartle All that Tract of Land Beginning at a [illegible] about [illegible] miles above [illegible] Creek or Connowitheara on the Tioga River North forty six degrees east to the Top of the Mountain east of the said Creek thence east until it strikes the [illegible] river thence down the river until it strikes the Pennsylvania line thence on said line to the Seventy Nine Mile stone from thence a northerly course to the place of Beginning Together with all the Rights Liberties Privileges Members Immunities Hunting Places and Appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining To have and to hold the said Tract piece or parcel of Land and Hereditaments hereby granted or intended to be granted with the Appurtenances unto the said Benjamin Bridewell Simon Spalding John Shepard Matthias Hollenback Obadiah Gore Elijah Buck Harris Jones Lawrence Tumper Joseph Smith Henry Tumper John Lambert Caleb Benton and John Bartle their heirs and Assigns to the only proper use and behoof of the said Benjamin Bridewell Simon Spalding John Shepard Matthias Hollenback Obadiah Gore Elijah Buck Harris Jones Lawrence Tumper Joseph Smith Henry Tumper John Lambert Caleb Benton and John Bartle their heirs and Assigns for ever as Tenants in Common Yielding paying therefor unto the said Little Beard Big Tree Nenuck Cawue Spruce Carrier Conondecta Tynwanyas Okeawasha and Cyandatages their Successors or Assigns for the use of the said Seneca and Cayuga Nations Yearly and every Year on the first day of May the rent of ten kegs of Powder of twenty weight each and four hundred weight of Lead ~ ~ ~ ~ of the same And the said [illegible] and the said Little Beard Big Tree Nenuck Cawue Spruce Carrier Conondecta Tynwanyas Okeawasha and Cyandatages for themselves and their Successors and for the whole Seneca and Cayuga Nations do Covenant Promise grant and agree to and with the said Benjamin Bridewell Simon Spalding John Shepard Matthias Hollenback Obadiah Gore Elijah Buck Harris Jones Lawrence Tumper Joseph Smith Henry Tumper John Lambert Caleb Benton and John Bartle their heirs and Assigns by these presents that they the said Benjamin Bridewell Simon Spalding John Shepard Matthias Hollenback Obadiah Gore Elijah Buck Harris Jones Lawrence Tumper Joseph Smith Henry Tumper John Lambert Caleb Benton and John Bartle their heirs or Assigns or any of them paying the said Yearly rent hereby Reserved in every year during said Term aforesaid shall or lawfully may from time to time or may at all times hereafter during the term aforesaid peaceably and quietly have hold use occupy and possess and enjoy the said Tract piece or parcel of Land hereby granted with the Appurtenances and Receive and take the rents Issues and Profits thereof [illegible] without let suit trouble hindrance molestation or interruption of them the said Little Beard Big Tree Nenuck Cawue Spruce Carrier Conondecta Tynwanyas Okeawasha and Cyandatages their Successors or of any of the Seneca and Cayuga Nations or any person lawfully claiming under them In Witness whereof we the said Little Beard Big Tree Nenuck Cawue Spruce Carrier Conondecta Tynwanyas Okeawasha and Cyandatages have hereunto set our hands and seals at Canadasago this fifth of March in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty seven

Sealed and Delivered
In the presence of us

[illegible]

Tynwanyas

Cyandatages

Nenuck

Spruce

Montreal 1st March 1787.

Dear Colonel,

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Sir John & Lady Johnson are still at Quebec where they are likely to remain till the water communication is open — The Opposition held up by the Lieutenant Governor, Mabane & the French party still exists but not in so violent a degree as when I wrote last, altho' they have very able advocates in Judge Rouville, De Bonne & others here who use every endeavour in their power to prejudice the minds of the Canadians against the English, and it must be confeſsed they have succeeded pretty well, but yet it will not answer their expectations, nor is there a sensible man among them who does not foresee that in leſs than half a Century the principal part of the landed property in this Province will be in the hands of the English, and who at present poſseſs all the Trade, and strange as it may appear, there is not a Canoe load of Goods sent to the upper Country but what is imported by His Majestys old Subjects, which fact is now fully established, even beyond the shadow of a doubt, from Authentic Reports & Returns of the Mercantile People & Property before the Governor & Council.–

The meeting of the Confederacy at the Huron Village mentioned in my last was held the 18th Decr., the result of which was that the Confederates agreed to send a final meſsage to Congreſs purporting that they shou'd withdraw the Surveyors & others laying out the New Townships, and that the People on either side shou'd not croſs the Ohio before a meeting to be held by especial Commiſsioners appointed on the part of the United States & Deputies from all the Nations composing the Confederacy, and this Congreſs to be held in the month of April at a place to be appointed, midway between both Territories, when a permanent Boundary Line is to be agreed on to prevent all future quarrels, and in their Speech sent to the Continental Congreſs they tell them that as the Land Inherited by their Forefathers,

and bequeathed to them, was held in common
for the use and benefit of the whole Confederacy,
so no one Branch of that confederacy could
alienate any part of that without the consent
of the whole; and consequently they must
look upon all agreements for the partition or
cession of Territory made by particular Tribes
with the States since the conclusion of Peace
between them & Great Britain; null and
void, and they farther tell them, that if they
do not meet them upon fair & equal terms,
they are all unanimously determined to
defend their Rights & Privileges to the last
extremity.. To this council trusty Persons were
dispatched by Mr McKee on whose intelligence
he could depend, & he found the sentiments
of the whole confederacy as friendly to the
British Interest as ever, and as a confirmation
of it they repeated every thing that passed at
the Meeting to Mr McKee on their return to Detroit

and assured he would communicate it to Lord Dorchester & the Superintendt General, and at the same time request a determinate & clear answer from His Lordship how far they can be supported as Allies should they come to extremities with the States, and they earnestly entreat that they may be informed of it before the proposed meeting.

In the meeting held by Colonel Butler with the Six Nation Deputies who returned from the Council at the Huron Village, he strongly recommends unanimity to them & by all means to collect the scattered part of their Nations, as by that means only they can be formidable to their Enemies: they thank him for this advice, & tell him they are convinced it is for their Interest & that they will take the necessary steps to that end, and at the same time desire he will recommend in the strongest terms that the Mohawks settled at the Bay de Quinte be removed to the Grand River, who they are well convinced, are encouraged by the by the white People to remain at that settlemt

— In a few days after this meeting he called another in consequence of a letter he received from Sir John, and put some queries to them how they would act should the Americans attempt taking the Posts, or how would they like our evacuating them. — I here transcribe the conclusion of their answer for you, and would send you … Copies of both Meetings, & of the Council at the Huron Village If I could meet with a private hand, and shall do it the first opportunity altho' I have been ever averse to troubling private Gentlemen with letters, who have, or feign to have so much business of their own that they take very little care to forward any commission they may be charged with, as was the case with Wms letters to me by Capt Munroe, who from his great fear of loosing them on his way from Halifax, via Boston, left them there to be forwarded with some of his Baggage next summer. — "Brother,

We are not a little surprised
" at you (the English) asking us such questions, as
" you know our minds, and as we have repeatedly
requested

"requested your information in case of ~~an~~ Invasion
" which we expected from the conclusion of the
" Peace. Every transaction of Ours is known
" to you since that time, and you must, in our
" opinions, be convinced that we were dejected
" from the first moment we heard of the Treaty
" of Peace between you and the Americans. –
" Our Actions since then have also shewn you
" that we have not concealed our resolutions,
" especially at the confederate Council, the
" result of which you are made acquainted
" with: why are these questions put to us
" when our Sentiments are so well known
" respecting the evacuation of the Forts: The
" war we were engaged in was yours, you
" are therefore the best judges how to act in this
" matter." Sir John received letters from Mr Watts, Mr Chew & the Children as late as the 3d Jany – The Family here, & all your friends are well – The January mail brought us an Account of the insolvency of the House of Sutherland & Grant here, in which your Servant, Mr McBeath is included, so that

that in all probability I must look out for some other person to rent the House; as there is no selling it at present to advantage, nay for the Original purchase exclusive of the repairs.—

I should write to Major Leake if I could procure him a Bill for the £100 N York Curt'y, the price of the Negroe sold to Commissary McLean by his directions.— The Money is laying in Todd & McGill's hands untill I can get a Bill— I shall sell his traveling Case, Bed &c in the spring, for if I was to expose them to sale sooner they would bring but a mere trifle, and indeed then I dont expect they will sell for half their value. — The Mail will be closed at four o'Clock— it is now ½ past three & I have to scribble a few lines to Wm. to thank him for his several letters.— I accused you in my last for not writing, for which I hope you will forgive me, and since I love you with all the ties of inclination and friendship, and wish you all the happiness of Life; health especially, the chiefest, you will pardon my being a little peevish— my best wishes attend my Dear good Mrs. Claus & my little Wife Nanny. yours ever

P. Langan

From [illegible] Langan
Montreal 17th March 87—
Recd 4th May —

the Packet left N York 6th Apr—

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Instructions for the good Government of the Indian Department.

To Sir John Johnson Baronet Superintend^t.
General & Inspector General of Indⁿ Affairs

You will continue to employ your utmost endeavours to promote His Majesty's Indian interest in general by keeping up a friendly intercourse and communication between all the Indian Nations, assuring them of the Kings paternal care and regard as long as they continue to merit them by acting as good and obedient children ought to do. Another great object of your appointment being to diminish the enormous expence which the necessity of the times and bad management had occasioned, you will introduce oeconomy, regularity and order into the Indian Department, and for the attainment of these ends, you will govern yourself by the following instructions.

1st As these people consider themselves free and independent and are in fact unacquainted with controul & subordination they are only to be governed by address & persuasion, and they require the utmost attention to ceremonies and external appearances, with an uncommon share of patience, good temper and forbearance, in all which you will instruct the inferior officers of your department, and see that there is a due observance of the same on all occasions.

2.

On the arrival of parties of distant Indians at any of the posts the Agent shall report the same to the Officer commanding, who with the Officers of the Garrison are to assist in receiving them which is to be done with every mark of kindness and friendship, and after the usual ceremonies they have made known their wants, their requests if reasonable are to be complied with. Should they, as is customary on these occasions, lay down presents of any kind, they are to be taken up with thanks, and in return presents exceeding the value of theirs are to be given them, in which case the Chiefs are always to be distinguished.

3. When public conferences are held at any of the posts between the Agents or any of them and the Indians the Commanding Officer shall preside attended by all the Officers of the Garrison, to whom due notice is to be given on all such occasions, but he is not under pretence of this regulation to interfere with the Agent in the management of the Indian Department.

4th As Indians are in general curious and wish to carry news to their villages the Officers should be very cautious not to relate any to them but what they know to be facts, and these should be very distinctly told, for the mistaking or not properly understanding a piece of news has been known to alarm and set a-going whole nations from a Post,

for

post, for which and other reasons, the Agents at the Posts should endeavour to make one or two sober and intelligent Chiefs of the Indian Nations living at or near their posts their Friends and confidents, and on any occasion of calling together a Council to have them present and make one of them their Speaker, having him prepared before the meeting and when met they should be further directed to have the Interpreter to prompt him in what the Officer intends to say, which is a custom among themselves, their Speakers having commonly prompters and Speeches so delivered will always have more influence than coming from an Interpreter being delivered in their own way.

5th. Minutes are to be regularly kept of the Councils, which with the Journals of all transactions are to be recorded in your Office.

6th. The Agents are at all times to inculcate into the minds of the Indians, principles of humanity and tenderness to prisoners, particularly upon the departure of all parties on war during a war, or while there is a probability of retaliating or resenting

injuries

inspect the same.

7th In all matters of trade where the Indians are concerned the utmost justice is to be done them, and if it requires the interference of the Officer commanding [illegible] the Agents residing at the respective Posts will make application to him and on all occasions they are to consult and keep up a good understanding with him and make such communications to him as the good of the service the safety of the Post and the security of the trade may require.

8th No person belonging to or employed in the Indian Department is to be permitted to trade directly or indirectly, or to have any share, profit or concern therein.

9th You are to give the Agents or Deputies such orders and directions as may be necessary for the proper discharge of their duty and the fulfilling the object of these Instructions.

10th You are to visit every post under your superintendency when the exigency of the service may require your presence to enquire into, examine and report the whole State and situation of

t[illegible]

Indian affairs to inspect their books and stores, and the method of carrying on their business.

11th All presents and provisions given at public conferences or councils are to be approved by the commanding Officer and delivered in presence of all the Officers of the Garrison, who are to certify the same expressing the quantity and quality, which certificate shall be the Voucher for so much expended.

12th No presents or provisions shall be given privately nor any incidental charges paid, but with the previous approbation of the superintendant Genl. or in his absence of the Officer commanding at the post, who is to certify the same in writing on the account.

13th All presents received are to be brought into account, and appropriated to the use of Government, certificates thereof, specifying the quantity & quality are to be signed by the Officer commanding and other officers of the Garrison if presented in council, but if privately received by the Commanding Officer only— Peltries so given are to be sent by the first opportunity to His Majesty's Indian Storehouse at Montreal, to be disposed of as may be ordered by the General or

Officer commanding in Canada, but when those presents are made a provision they are again to be issued to the troops or Indians as the Commanding officer at the Post shall direct.

14th All requisitions made by the Agents at the Upper Posts for presents necessary for the ensuing year, to be approved and countersigned by the officer commanding at the respective Posts, and in case the officer should think proper to refuse his assent, he will assign his reasons therefor in writing.

15th A statement of Indian presents necessary for the upper Country shall be transmitted to the Commander in Chief before the first of March, so that measures may be taken to forward the same upon the first opening of the navigation. When such statement is approved of the Superintendent General will give orders to the Storekeeper General of the Indian Department at Montreal for issuing the same, which order, with the receipt of the person charged by the Superintendent General with the conducting thereof to the respective posts, will be his voucher for the delivery, and the Conductor, to whom proper Invoices are to be given will be accountable for the several Articles till delivered to the Agent or person to whom they are consigned at the Post for which they are intended, who on their arrival will apply to the Commanding Officer for a survey thereon, after which the Agent will grant receipts for the same and stand chargeable therewith, which receipts are to be delivered by the Conductor on his return to the Indian Storekeeper at Montreal, whom you will direct to enter them as sub-accountants and to see that they account for the same.

16th When Stores are sent to this Country from England for the use of the Indians, the same are to be delivered into the custody of the Storekeeper General of the Indian Department, who is to be accountable for them as well as all other Stores committed to his charge.

17th Should it be necessary to provide other Stores, than those received from England, a State of what is wanted with the estimate of the prices to be laid before the General Officer Commanding in Canada for his approbation and orders, for no Stores are to be purchased here but in case of great necessity and by the order of the General Officer commanding in the Province, who will grant a Warrant on the Deputy Paymaster General for the same.

18th Previous to the payment of such Stores as may be ordered to be provided, the Storekeeper General of the Indian Department will grant certificates that the same have been received expressing therein the quantity, quality and price of said Articles, as approved by the Superintendent General, such certificates being necessary before accounts are examined by a Board of Accounts or payment made by warrant as required.

19th No Stores shall be lent or exchanged on any account whatever.

20th When the Storekeeper shall find any of the Stores damaged in such manner as to require the calling a survey he will apply by memorial, to be approved by the Superintendent General, to the General or Officer Commanding in the district to appoint proper persons to survey the same to whom he will state the cause of damage and the Surveyors shall report the state and condition in which they find such stores. Should the General order the damaged Stores to be disposed of, certificates signed by the persons named to see [illegible] reference and certificates shall be the sale executed must be the Voucher for so much expended.

21st All Artificers accounts for Store rent and other incidents are to be made up at the period when they become due, approved and countersigned by the Superintendent General and sent for the examination of a Board of Accounts in order for their being paid by a warrant on the Deputy Pay Master General who is in future to be the only public accountant for money.

22 No presents or Stores to be issued by the Storekeeper General at Montreal, but by the directions of the Superintendent General or in his absence of the Officer next in command in the Department.

23rd. Every Magazine shall be numbered and a regular account kept with each to the end that the contents of every Store may be at all times ascertained. The Stores shall be so arranged and disposed of, as to be come at readily and without confusion and kept well aired to prevent damage. Stores newly received are to be deposited in a part of the Storehouse by themselves, to be inspected by persons appointed by the General or officer commanding in the Province, the inspectors will report the quantity, quality and value thereof. The Superintendent General or person authorized by him is to visit the Storehouses once a month or oftner, if he finds it necessary and to report all extraordinaries.

24th In case of loss by fire, the enemy or other accident, proper affidavits thereof are to be immediately obtained expressing every particular which may be necessary to ascertain such loss, and the same reported to the General or Officer commanding in the Province and to the Superintendant General.

25th Regular books of entry and delivery are to be kept at the several posts, in which all receivals are to be charged and all issues credited, marking from whom received, to whom issued, by what authority and their respective dates, which are from time to time to be transmitted to the Superintendant General, who will direct the Indian Storekeeper General to include them in his general account, to be sent to Head Quarters in obedience to the order of the 6th December last.

26th Returns to be made every three months of all the stores expressing quantity and quality of all Storehouses belonging to the Crown, stating their situation, how employed, by whom owned and rate of rent.

27th Provisions and Stationary are to be supplied by the Commissary and Storekeeper General to the Army, and the postage of letters will be paid by warrant to the Deputy Paymaster General, an account of which is to be kept by the Department to serve as a check before the warrant is granted.

28th The general order of the 6th December last directing

that "all persons attached to the army in North America
"or belonging thereto entrusted with the receipt and expendi-
"ture of public money, the receipt and issues of public stores
"shall make up, state and settle their respective accounts
"at the end of every quarter, the first quarter to commence
"from the 25th December instant."

That "these accounts shall be first examined
"by a Board of Accounts if any can be formed in the district
"where the expenditure or issues have been made, or stores
"purchased, and forwarded by the first convenient opportunity
"to Head Quarters directed for the inspection of the Commander
"in Chief."

That "one set of Vouchers for the expenditure and
"issues are to accompany the statement of the Accounts":

That "the Cash accounts will specify with the
"Cost of the Articles purchased the Department for which
"they have been provided and the amount of pay of all
"persons employed therein."

That "the Authority by which all such issues
"and expenditures took place will also be mentioned." You
are to take care that the same is punctually carried
into execution in your department.

29th Having approved and directed to be carried
into execution, the plan submitted by you on the

27th November last, for the good government of the Indian Department for the year 1787. Similar plans are to be given in annually on or before the first of October, at the same time also shall be given in, a state of all presents and stores you shall judge necessary to be ordered from England for the ensuing year.

30th — Should any difficulties arise not provided for by these Instructions, or alterations appear necessary, you will apply to the General Officer Commanding in the Province, that proper directions may be given and to whom you will report on all occasions.

Head Quarters Quebec 27th March 1787

Signed
Dorchester

By His Excellency's Command
Signed Frans. Le Maistre M.S.

A true Copy
Thos. Aston Coffin

N.º 4 [illegible] 1805.

[illegible] a 224

Referred to the Com-
mittee of Council
appointed the 24th.
ultimo - to enquire
into certain proceed-
ings in the Indian
Department at
Michilimackinac
by order of His Exc.y
Lord Dorchester. Jan.y
13th. 1790

{Read [illegible]

To the Honorable the Representatives of the United States of North America in Congress Assembled —

The Petition of Andrew McFarlan of the Township of Schenectada and State of New York

Humbly Sheweth

That in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and Eighty, the Honorable Major General Philip Schuyler and Volkert P. Douw Esqr. Commissioners of Indian Affairs in the Northern District of the United States of America, held a Treaty with the Oneida Indians at Schenectada where the residence of said Indians was fixed.

That Colonel Udney Hay then Agent of the State of New York contracted with John Fonda Esqr to supply the said Indians with provisions and other necessaries. That the extreme scarcity of those articles were such he found it necessary to apply to your Petitioner to purchase on said contract, to which your Petitioner consented to from a sincere wish to promote and support the cause of Liberty and to render every service in his power for the benefit of the United States.

From these considerations your Petitioner advanced large sums of money and which he harboured not the least doubt but that they would be repaid at a short period, but to your Petitioner's great Injury there still remains due to him a Balance of two thousand four hundred and twenty six Dollars as will appear by a Certificate from Joseph Nourse Esqr.

That from the mode of Settlement your Petitioner has it not in his power to satisfy considerable demands against him and in consequence whereof several suits at Law are commenced against him which threatens to involve him and a large family of Children in utter ruin.

Your Petitioner therefore most humbly begs your Honorable House will take his situation into mature deliberation, and order him payment for Principal and Interest due thereon out of the Federal Treasury or of the Treasury of the State of New York on account of the requisitions due therefrom or any other Mode your Honorable House may adopt for his immediate Relief

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And Your Petitioner (as in duty bound) will ever pray —

Andw McFarlan

Petition Andrew McFarlin
Recd 19. April 1787
Referred to the board of
[illegible]

Louisville; May the 3rd AD 1787 —

Sir — I beg leave to congratulate your Excellency on your promotion to the chair of Congreſs, and to add that you have my ardent wishes that ſome ſucceſsful, patriotic act of Congreſs may mark your Preſidency, and make it memorable in the view of the Citizens of the United States, to the latest period of their Common-wealth.

You have had your ſhare of glory in war, and have only to ſhow the world that the confidence of the Citizens of the United States is not miſsplaced in a time of peace with Europe, when they look to you and the preſent Congreſs for the protection of their lives againſt the ſavages of the wilderneſs; and a vindication of their indubitable rights, from whatever quarter, machinations may be forming againſt them.

Permit me ſir to inform your Excellency and the Honorable, the Congreſs; for I perſuade myſelf that you are hitherto uninformed, that the ſituation of the inhabitants of this District of Kentucky is truly diſtreſsing. From the time of my arrival at this place, on Christmaſs last, unceasing depredations have been committed in various parts of the District, by the ſavages of ſeveral tribes. But their attacks until within a few weeks paſt, have been rather troubleſome than formidable: their hoſtilities now begin to wear a more ſerious aſpect, by being evidently reduced to ſyſtem.

Through the winter and the former part of the ſpring, no conſiderable bodies of Indians were ſeen; and I was rather led to ſuppoſe that the frequent miſchiefs was then done by the more diſsolute and idle part of their young men; without the approbation of their councilors and chiefs. But ſir the caſe is quite otherwiſe at preſent: the trails or traces, of large and dangerous bodies are now frequently met with in every direction.

for continuation see 205

through the unſettled part of the District: and ſcarce a day paſses but is ſtained with the generous blood of ſome of your citizens: or the loſs of numbers of their horſes.

I have lately ſeen publiſhed in a Philadelphia paper, the copy of a letter addreſsed to Congreſs, from my very worthy friend, General Butler: wherein he takes notice, that advices from the weſtern Indians are favourable. That through the influence of the ſix nations, their meditated hoſtilities againſt the United States had been fruſtrated at the council held at Sanduſky. That in particular the Delawares, the Wiandots and Shawoneſe were pacifically diſpoſed: and that on the whole nothing ſerious or alarming was to be apprehended to diſturb the quiet and harmony of the United States. I have not the paper to which I allude, and ſaw it but once, and therefore cannot pretend to recite it verbatim: but this is in ſubſtance:

It truly gives me pain ſir, that I ſhould ever be obliged to diſaſsent to any of the Generals propoſitions: but if I recollect rightly he founded his information on the relation of an Indian chief of the ſix nations, who perhaps has very little correſpondence with the Indians ſettled on the Wabaſh and the Miamme's. I believe with the General, that nothing is to be apprehended from the Delawares and the Wiandots, their ſituation is remote from this District: but as to the pretended friendly diſpoſition of the Shawoneſe, I am fully perſuaded that it is altogether groundleſs. Of the truth of this I wiſh to convince you, and ſhall be a little particular. Sometime in February laſt, part of the family in which I then lived was boiling ſugar a little way in the wood, when they were fired upon by ſix Indians: the wife of the Overſeer was tomahawked and ſcalped; and two lads, of about fourteen years of age were carried off priſoners.

Colonel Bullet the County Lieutenant purſued, came up with them, and reſcued the boys. From the manner of the dreſs of the Indians, and the particular mode of cuting their hair, and dreſsing their head, ſome gentlemen who had been their priſoners, and converſant in the Shawaneſe nation, declared them to be Shawaneſe. A farther proof is, that many of the Indians croſs the Ohio, from the federal ſide, at and near the mouth of the Kentucky river; and in a direct line from the Shawaneſe towns: whereas the Wabash Indians have always croſsed the Ohio much lower down the river. But ſir, ſuppoſe we admit for a moment, that the Shawaneſe are quiet, will not Congreſs believe that the Wabash Indians are hoſtile? did they attend your late treaty tho invited ſtrenuouſly by the Commiſsioners? have they ever pretended a ſeeming friendſhip to the United States? and are they not better ſituated to annoy this Diſtrict than moſt other Indians? and do they not do it with too much ſucceſs, while the United States moſt ingloriouſly ſuffer them to proceed in their murders with impunity? The cries of your widows and orphans ſhall anſwer these queſtions.

I have hitherto forborn to trouble your Excellency and your honorable house with any repreſentations on this tragic ſubject, and I had ſtill delayed, was I not conſcious that it would be criminal in me to withhold my teſtimony touching the calamities of this country any longer from the ſovereign council of the nation.

To your Excellency and the honorable gentlemen in Congreſs, the citizens of this part of the United States look, and let me add, they have a right to look for protection; and I aſsure myſelf that it cannot, will not be denied or withheld. They are a part of the confederacy to whom protection is implied and promiſed by the confederation. To the ill-timed neglect of the late Congreſs I impute all their preſent ſufferings: had the United States last year, countenanced and led an expedition againſt the preſent invaders of this country, they had now been as ſubmiſsive as the ſix nations are. Had Colonel Harmer agreeable to the request of Governor Henry been detached with a ſmall body of the continental troops, it would have given an example of ſubordination to the detachment of militia in the command of General Clark; the want of which ruined the deſign. It would have added ſtability and confidence to the army, and the expedition could not have failed of ſucceſs. But the Wabash Indians and the Shawoneſe must be conſidered as our friends, and allies and might not be disturbed. How do they requite you Sir, for your friendly interference? read their gratitude in the pale countenances and the mangled bodies of your citizens which no longer ago than yesterday were ſlaughtered on the public road a few miles from this town. Out of eight men in company, four only eſcaped, the rest were loſt: the number of Indians that fired upon them were about thirty of our friends the Shawoneſe. Bartlet Searsey who is one of those that eſcaped and underſtands the Shawoneſe language well, having lived long in their nation; declares that the Indians ſpoke to each other in that language: that he perfectly underſtood what they ſaid: and that he with the ſame company had been fired upon the day before by another party [illegible] United States [illegible] of the [illegible]

North America in Congress Assembled

The Petition [illegible] of Lawrence [illegible]

Schenectada in the State of New York, Merchant

mbly Sheweth

That in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven Hundred and Eighty the Honorable Major General Philip Schuyler and Volkert P. Douw Esqs Commissioners of Indian Affairs in the Northern Department of the United States of America, held a Treaty with the Oneida Ind at Schenectada where the residence of said Indians was fixed, That Colonel Udney Hay then Agent for the State of New York, contracted with Jellis Fonda Esq to supply the said Indians with Provisions and other necessaries which from the extream scarcity, those Articles were found difficult to procure and induced said Mr Fonda to apply to your Petitioner to join with him in said Contract, which your Petitioner Consented to from a sincere with to promote and support the Cause of Liberty and to render every service in his power for his Country —

That from these motives your Petitioner advanced upon the Faith and Credit of your Honorable House large sums of Money, and harbour'd not the least doubt but that it would be repaid at a short period, That to his great Injury there still remains due to him from said United States a Balance of Two Thousand four Hundred and seventy Six Dollars of the Mony so advanced as will appear by the Certificate of Joseph Nourse Esq —

That your Petitioner has a large Family of Children to support; besides which there are Several Actions commenced against him for monies which he now owes in New York and other places and threatens your Petitioner with total Ruin. without the interposition of your Honorable House —

400 Your Petitioner therefore most humbly begs your Honorable House for immediate Relief by granting him an order on the Federal Treasury, or the Treasurer of the State of New York on requisitions due therefrom for the amount of his Demands or any other mode your Honorable House may please to adopt to enable him to satisfy his Creditors and your Petitioner (as in duty bound) will ever pray

Andw. [illegible]

To His Excellency
The President of Congress

No 10 —

Petition
Andrew McFarlan

read 18 July 1787

July 20. filed. —

See petition read April 28
1786 —

Office of Secretary of Congreſs
July 23d 1787

Sir, I have the honor to transmit to your Excellency herewith enclosed a copy an act of the United States in Congreſs aſsembled, paſsed the 21st instant in consequence of a report on the incursions and depredations on the frontiers of your State by the Wabash Indians, the Shawanese and other hostile tribes.

While this matter was under consideration Congreſs received information of a general confederacy formed by the five Nations and the other tribes within the territory of the United States Northwest of the Ohio, and an offer of the said confederacy to treat of peace. On this Congreſs are now deliberating; as soon as they have come to a determination thereon, the result will be communicated to your Excellency.

With the greatest Respect
I have &c
C T

His Excellency
the Governor of
Virginia

New York September 22d 1787.

Sir,

I take the liberty of requesting Your Excellency to inform Congreſs, that the Suit, instituted against the Commiſsioners, for negotiating Treaties with the Indian Nations, by Galbraith & Others, is soon to come to iſsue — that at present I stand alone burthened with the expence of this Suit, and answerable for its iſsue. For the particulars on which it is founded, I beg leave to refer to the Report of the Board of Treasury on the Memorial of Galbraith & Others, dated November 15th 1785. —

As the cause of this Action arose from the execution of an indispensible duty to the Public in conjunction with my Colleagues, I hope Congreſs will not think it just, that the expence, costs and poſsible damages should fall on me; but that they will be pleased to order these to be paid out of the Public Treasury. — The journal of the Proceedings of the Commiſsioners, at the Treaty, which is deposited in the Office of the Secretary of Congress, will shew that they took all due care to prevent any avoidable injury to the persons concerned from the storing their Liquors, by ordering the same to be restored the moment the Treaty was concluded, and compensation to be made out of the Public Stores where there was any deficiency.—

I have the honor to be
with the greatest respect
Your Excellency's
most Obedient &
Hble. Servant
Arthur Lee

His Excell'y
The President of
Congreſs.—

Letter 22 Sept 1787
A Lee

Read 24

respecting the suit brot
against him by Galbreath &c.
Sept 25 Referred to Mr Johnson
Mr King
Mr Gorham
Comee discharged
Oct. 9. 1787

His Excellency
The President of
Congress

Acted on Oct. 23d 1787 —

Dispatches from
Richard Butler Esq:r
Superintend:t Indian Affairs
Northern department.
(Carlisle, Octob:r 10th 1787)

of

Copy of a letter from the Superintendant of Indian Affairs for the Northern district to Col. James Livingston deputy Superindt.

Dated Carlisle August 2d. 1787

Sir/

I had the honor to write you on the 8th of May last in answer to yours of the 12th of April requesting you to proceed in the execution of the Office of deputy superintendant of Indian affairs in the northern district agreable to the ordinance of Congreſs for the regulation of that department.— Your appointment having taken place the 2d day of April which I requested his Excellency the President of Congreſs to forward to you with my letter, but finding by a letter of the 19th of July from the Honble. the Secretary at War that no person has taken charge of the department in that quarter and that the Indians have applied to Congreſs for the appointment of Mr. Peter Schuyler *who had declined* previous to your appointment, I have wrote him respecting you, and have the pleasure now to enclose your Warrant for that office.

On the receipt of this you will be pleased to apply to the War Office for the ordinance, render the neceſsary security to the Honble. the board of treasury and take the oath of office as directed by Congreſs, a copy of which you will please to transmit to me certified.— I have also to request you to be particular in your endeavors to know the conduct and intentions of the indians in all cases, and in keeping a regular entry of all public transactions, of which you will advise me monthly via the War Office, as frequent and regular communications between us may be of the highest consequence to the U.S. in indian affairs; And should any matter in your opinion require the immediate attention of Congress you will please to advise the Secretary at War thereof.

I wish to hear from you as early as poſsible and will be much obliged if you can obtain me a vocabulary of the Mohawk or any of the six nations languages, and hope your appointment may be agreable to you.

I have the honor, &c.

Colo. James Livingston
Depy. Superdt. of Ind. Affairs } (Signed) Richard Butler

P.S. I expect orders shortly to hold a general treaty of which I will advise you - The enclosed Speech I would recommend to you to take to the Oneida towns and deliver them in person for good reasons, at which time you can fix your mode of obtaining intelligence &c. I beg leave to recommend to you as interpretors Mr. Joseph Dean and the Reverend Doctor Kirkland.

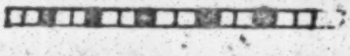
(Signed) R. B.

Copy of the Meſsage to the Five nations enclosed to Col. James Livingston deputy superintendant of indian affairs for the northern district.

Dated Carlisle 3d August 1787.

Brothers of the five Nations.

I am directed by Congreſs to inform the Hurons, and other indian nations, who joined in the representation made to Congreſs dated the 18th day of December 1786. That Congreſs on the 18th of the present month July 1787 received your said representation and have taken it into their ſerious consideration and in due time will send you their answer.- A string of white and black Wampum

thus 

Richd Butler

Superintendt Indn Affs N. District.

Brothers

I communicated to the five nations and western indians last winter that Congreſs were pleased to appoint me Superintendant of Indian affairs to take care of the great council fire between the United States and all the nations of Indians from the Ohio river north to the middle of the Lakes- They also gave me orders to appoint a deputy to reside near you as formerly to keep the council fire alive between the U.S and you, to hear all your just complaints, to receive your ſpeeches, to transmit them to Congreſs and to me, and to deliver all ſpeeches to you that buſineſs may be easily transacted.- I offered to appoint Peter Schuyler he being a person you all know, I waited long for his answer which has kept me from appointing another person, he has refused to ſerve - I have therefore appointed Colᵒ. James Livingston who is a good man, he will deliver you this ſpeech and I hope and request you will take him by the hand, believe what he tells you and at a times consider him as your friend and brother.

Brothers.

I must inform you that frequent visits to Con is very inconvenient for them and troublesome to you those of your people who have been there must know how tedious and difficult to get there, and how ha to do buſineſs when there - I therefore desire when any of your cheifs have buſineſs at Congreſs which can be done by the Superintendant they will make the buſineſs known to Colᵒ. Livingston who will communi it to me, and I will let them know whether the visit c be admitted or not as no visits will be received by Congreſs from any Indian nations but in that way

I had the pleasure to see you at the Treaty a Fort Stanwix in the fall of 1784 and hope to see you before long again.

I am your friend and brother

(Signed) Richard Butler

Superintendᵗ. Indⁿ. affairs N. District

Copy R Butler to J Livingston Aug 12. 1787

Copy of genl R Butler's Letter
10 Oct 1787

Copy of a Letter from General Richard Butler
Superintendant of Indian affairs for the Northern depart

Dated Carlisle Octr 10th 1787

Sir/

I have the honor to acknowledge your favor of the 3d Septr received the 15th: enclosing an order for powder and lead. the receipts for which are enclosed as directed—your observation respecting a distinction between the stores of mine and the military department are highly proper and shall (so far as rests with me) be particularly attended to, and as future supplies become requisite will transmit such estimates as may be wanted; the smiths tools he mentioned in my last would be very usefull should it be thought proper to allow them.

Your favor of the 19th: Ultimo with enclosures came to hand the 7th: instt that which you are pleased to mention of the 10th: September is not yet arrived. Nothing would give me greater pleasure than to ſee and be instumental in ſetling a permanent peace between the U.S. and the indian nations which I hope the determination of Congreſs on your report will put in my power, as I have not a doubt of the liberality of the plan enabling me to carry it through with that dignity which I hope will ever attend the public transactions of the confidential officers of the U.S. - At present I can say no more on this head than that I am now so well recovered as to be able to proceed on the buſineſs whenever it may be thought proper and only wait the neceſsary instructions and &ca

The information from Mr. Farlee though I have no grounds to suppose it to be alarming I have transmitted to Genl. Harmar and Major Doughty recommending a cautious conduct on their part without betraying much suspicion should indians arive at or near their posts. I have also warned the officers at Venango and McIntosh to be on their guard - The meſsenger which I sent to Sanduskee with the meſsage of Congreſs not having yet returned I can give no certain account of Brandt, but I think he could hardly be at Niagara at the time mentioned, as he certainly was at Detroit in the summer, if he was at Niagara at the time mentioned it is not improbable there is ſomething ill brewing, but it is my opinion they will not act untill they have the determination of Congreſs to their confederated addreſs which I sincerely wish to be determined on.

I return you my thanks for the copy of your letter to Colo. Livingston, you will see by the inclosed papers (copies of mine to him) how far he has been instructed in the buſineſs of a treaty—I conceived it of importance to the U.S. as well as to himself as a public officer *entering on a new buſineſs* to show himself to the Oneida and Tuskarora indian tribes through whom all meſsages from his quarter between the U.S. and the five nations are to paſs, they being the most contiguous and *profeſsedly* our friends through the late war, the delivery of the meſsage of Congreſs and a ſpeech in addition of my own by which I introduce him will demonstrate the intention, and I flatter myself Colo. Livingston will on receipt of your letter, and a second reading of mine, see that my instructions were only introductory of him, and preparatory to other or future matters. I have not as yet received the letters from him which you are pleased to mention in the copy—The resolve of Congreſs of the 25th now enclosed respecting the medals is the first I have received, therefore conclude it enclosed in your letter of the 10th not yet come to hand, as probably are the letters &c from Colo. Livingston, but agreable to your desire I have the honor to enclose a return of the number which I presume may be requisite for my department.

As to the commiſsions for indians I have never been able to discover the propriety or good policy of it, except when they may be called out and embodied as Allies for the purposes of war, then it is useful and

=encouraging to their active warriors as it ſtimulates them to exe
and may end with their ſervices; but I have generally obser
that distinctions of these kinds had an evil tendency. when
given to chiefs. as it immediately created jealousies betw
them and their people, and ſpoiled the man. besides keepi
up the Idea and expectation that they are entitled to pay ag
=able to their rank whilst they hold the commiſsions which
I believe Congreſs have in ſome instances experienced.-b
medals. and something expreſsive of the good opinion w
Congreſs have of their good conduct in governing and
keeping peace among their people. encouraging them to hun
and acknowledging their paternal care may have good
effects through the tribes to whom they belong, and will
create influence and respect; and as the chiefs are general
the poorest among their people Doceurs handsomely and
privately given will always complete the tie, I have ſeldom
known it fail; however as it is the pleasure of Congreſs to
direct the form of a Commiſsion I think ſomething near the
common form will answer, though I do not pretend to advis
the measure. the enclosed is my Idea of what might accom
=pany the medal.

Your information respecting Gen^{l}. Harmars
movements are very acceptable & may be very useful. in tru
Sir. it is with the highest ſatisfaction I acknowledge the regu
=larity and politeneſs of your communications which at all
times will be gratefully received and attended to.

I have the Honor &c.

Hon^{ble}. Major General Knox
Sect^{y}. at War.

(Signed) Rich^{d}. Butler.

Resolved, That in case the Governor of the Western Territory shall judge it necessary to hold a Treaty with the Indians as empowered by the Resolution of the 22. Septemr, he shall ~~the same~~ Conduct the same in Conjunction with the Superintendant of Indian Affairs for the Northern Department unless the ~~Superintendant~~ attendance of the sd Superintendant shall be prevented by any unforeseen event. 393

the Chevalr.
that he is anxious he hopes that the conduct of
the negotiations ~~[illegible]~~ [illegible]
~~[illegible]~~ entirely to the
Dr Franklin is ~~[illegible]~~ [illegible] with
Jefferson - of that he be [illegible] which [illegible]
accomplish part of the instructions
the Chevalr.
[illegible] ~~[illegible]~~ seen [illegible] formed —

Moved

Mr Clarke —

that the treaty with southern Indians be made in conjunction with Superintendants.

Passed Oct. 27th 1787 —

ADS James Dean

Be it remembered that in addition to the Covenants & Agreements this day made & concluded between the Sachems & Chiefs of the Oneida Nation on the One part; And Jedediah Phelps Silversmith on the Other part, & inserted in a Lease of Land bearing date this day it is expressly Stipulated by the sd Phelps & unanimously agreed to by the Chiefs & Sachems above mentioned, that if any depredation be committed by the Indians in time of peace on the Cattle of the sd Phelps his Heirs or Assigns, or any other of his or their domestick Animals, that then & in that Case, the Value of such Creature shall be estimated & deducted from the Rent due in the Year in which such depredation shall be committed

Oneida Novr 12th 1787

Attest
James Dean
Thomas Bruce

his
Lodwick X Kaghsaweta
mark

his
Cornelius X Kakiktoton
mark

Jacob Reed

his
John X Tekanajasere
mark

his
Peter X Oneyoutta
mark

Jedh Phelps

his
Thomas X Sketetagearat
mark

his
Wm X Kayendarugwen
mark

his
Christian X Thonigwenisto Johnne
mark

1789

In Assembly Jany 19th
1789

Read with a
Petition of Jedediah
Phelps and ordered
to be laid on the
Table

640
36
3840
1920
23040

640
6
3840

Beginning at the

Order of Col Philips,
In Dept

This Indenture made the Thirtyeth day of November in the year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Eighty Seven, Between the Chiefs or Sachems of the Six Nations of Indians of the one part and John Livingston, Caleb Benton, Peter Rykman, John Stevenson and Ezekiel Gilbert for themselves and their associates of the County of Columbia and State of New York, Esquires of the other part Witnesseth that the said Chiefs or Sachems of the Six Nations for and in consideration of the yearly rent and Covenants herein after reserved mentioned and contained which on the part and behalf of the said John Livingston, Caleb Benton, Peter Rykman, John Stevenson & Ezekiel Gilbert and their associates their Executors administrators & assigns are or ought to be paid kept done & performed Hath demised granted and to farm let and by these presents doth demise let and to farm let unto the said John Livingston, Caleb Benton, Peter Rykman, John Stevenson &c Ezekiel Gilbert and their associates their Executors administrators and assigns all that Certain tract or parcel of Land commonly called & known by the name of the Lands of the Six Nations of Indians Situate lying and being in the State of New York and now in the actual possession of the said Chiefs or Sachems of the Six Nations Beginning at a place commonly known by the name of Canada Creek about Seven miles west of Fort Stanwix, now Fort Schuyler thence North Easterly to the line of the province of Quebec, thence along the said line to the Pennsylvania line - Thence East on the said line or Pennsylvania line to the line of property so called by the State of New York, Thence along said line of property to Canada Creek or said together with all and singular the Houses Barns or Houses Closes grounds Lands Meadows Pastures feetings commons profits ways paths passages waters Water courses Mines minerals Easements and appurtenances whatsoever to the said Messuages or tracks of Land belonging or in any ways appertaining and always reserving out of this presents demise &c grant unto the Chiefs or Sachems and their Heirs any track or piece of land they chose to reserve for themselves and their Heirs but of they the said Chiefs or Sachems of the Six Nations are minded at any time to Leave the Lands then are in that case it shall revert to the said John Livingston Caleb Benton, Peter Rykman John Stevenson and Ezekiel Gilbert and their associates and their Heirs during the term of this lease to have and to hold the said Messuages and tracks of Land and all and singular the said premises hereby demised with the appertenances except as before excepted unto the said John Livingston Caleb Benton Peter Rykman John Stevenson & Ezekiel Gilbert and their Associates their Executors, administrators and assigns from the day first above written for and during the term of nine hundred & ninety nine years thence next ensuing and fully to be compleat and ended yielding and paying therefore yearly and every year during the said term hereby granted unto the said Chiefs or Sachems of the Six Nations their heirs Executors & administrators the yearly Rent or Sum of two thousand Spanish Milled dollars in and upon the fourth day of July & also that they the said John Livingston Caleb Benton Peter Rykman John Stevenson Ezekiel Gilbert and their associates their Executors administrators and assigns paying the yearly rent of two thousand Milled Dollars and performing all and singular the said covenants and agreements herein before mentioned which in their behalf are or ought to be paid done or performed shall and may from time to time and at all times during the said term hereby granted peaceably & quietly enter into have hold use occupy possess and enjoy all and singular the said premises hereby granted & demised with the appurtenances except as before excepted without any let trouble hindrance molestation interruption or denial of them the said Chiefs or Sachems of the Six Nations their heirs Executors or administrators and of any other person or persons whatsoever claiming or to claim from or under them or any of them or by or through their or any of their acts means or procurements in Witness whereof the parties to these presents have set their hands and seals the day and year first above written

5 — 5 —

Kanuksong his + mark (L S)
Kohikdoton
Chuahisah
Jonesarade
Kanisaide
Cahongagate
Tewelague
Syadoh
Thaniunkangue
Hweanah
Tuineunkathe

Tascouras
William Brant
Sequeretsera
Teaganza
Tuiewachkoon

Mohawk
Carachuntee

Cayugas
Carachquadinha
Canahoy
Cunachquaya
Tokwaze
Atitycake
Saguegachtea
Shangast
Onasquagaint
Saichtiako
Achyatha
Sowandas
Sahuchtajey
Ominsakee
Anajawas
Kyantmakee

Orieda
Cornelius Jolrage
Capt David

John Abeel
Segoanakka
Soneadwa or big throat
Kawandawa or Big tree
Onagueo or Infant
Saowes or chaw tobacco
Yonowayo
Joandades
Oughquedia or hot Bread
Corounidagua
Tawakeasa
Little Beard
Soseawa
Subunee
Ostako

Over

Sealed and delivered in presence of witnesses present-
N Rosecrantz, George Stimson Junr, Peter Bostel Junr,
Joseph Smith, Col Lewey his 7 mark -

State of New-York Secretary's Office February 16th 179
I certify the preceding to be true Copy of the original Instrument now remaining on file in this Office

(Signed) Daniel Hall
Secy

A Triplicate Copy.

Deed for Lands,
In the State of New York,
From the Five Nations of Indians,
To Oliver Phelps & Nathaniel Gorham,
Given at a General Council Held at
Buffalo Creek, July 8th,
1788.

Quit-Claim.

From the Four Nations of Indians,
To Lands in Western New York, to
Oliver Phelps.
Canadqua. August 4th
1789.

With Proofs of the
validity of Said Deeds.

(American State Papers, vol. IV Class II. Indian Affairs. Vol ~~IV~~ I. 206.)

No 25.

2nd Congress 1st Session

Senecas

Mr Butler, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred the speeches of the Seneca chief, Cornplanter, of the 9th December, 1790; 10th January, 7th February, and 17th March, 1791; made the following report;

That Oliver Phelps, of whom Cornplanter makes mention, produced some affidavits, and other papers, relating to the purchase of lands, made by him of the Indians, which your committee examined, and are of opinion that the said affidavits, and other papers, should be filed in the Secretary's office; and that the committee be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

(The speeches of Cornplanter occupy pages 206-207-208-209. They set forth the grievances of the Indians represented by Cornplanter, who claimed that Oliver Phelps cheated them. Following these speeches are the documents produced by Phelps in evidence of the treaty and bargain made with the Indians, - consisting of a certified copy of the treaty and personal affidavits.)

(American State Papers, Indian Affairs, Vol IV. p 210.)

To all People to whom these presents shall come, greeting: Know ye, that we, the sachems, chiefs, and warriors, of the Five Nations of Indians, for, and in consideration of, the sum of two thousand one hundred pounds, lawful money of the State of New York, paid, and received by us, to our full satisfaction, of Oliver Phelps, of Granville, in the county of Hampshire, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Esquire, and Nathaniel Gorham, of Charlestown, in the county of Middlesex, in the Commonwealth aforesaid, and of which we do hereby release and discharge them, the said Oliver and Nathaniel; and particularly, in consideration of the covenant and engagement made and executed by the said Oliver Phelps, in behalf of the said Nathaniel and himself, by deed of even date with these presents, have given, granted, ceded, bargained, sold, aliened, conveyed, and confirmed, and by these presents do hereby give, grant, cede, bargain, sell, alien, convey, and confirm, unto them, the said Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham, and to their heirs and assigns, forever, all that territory or country of land lying within the State of New York, contained within, and being parcel of, the lands and territory, the right of pre-emption of the soil whereof, from the native Indians, was ceded by the State of New York aforesaid, to the Commonwealth aforesaid, by deed of cession, executed at Hartford, by commissioners for that purpose, on the sixteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-six, within the following limits and bounds, that is to say: Beginning in the north boundary line of the State of Pennsylvania, in the parallel of forty-two degrees north latitude, at a point distant eighty two miles west from the northeast corner of Pennsylvania, on Delaware river, as the said boundary line hath been run and marked by the commissioners appointed by the States of New York and Pennsylvania, respectively; and from said point or place of beginning, running west upon said line to a meridian which shall pass through that corner or point of land made by the confluence of the Shanahasgwaikoreshi (so called) with the waters of the Genesee river; thence, running north along the said meridian to the corner or point last mentioned; thence, northwardly along the waters of the said Genesee river, to a point two miles north of Canawageras village, so called; thence, running in a direction due west, twelve miles; thence, running a direction northwardly, so as to be twelve miles distant from the most westward bends of said Genesee river, to the shore of the Ontario lake; thence eastwardly along the shores of said lake, to a meridian which will pass through the first point or place of beginning above mentioned; thence, south along said meridian to the first point or place of beginning, aforesaid; together with all and singular the woods, houses, streams, rivers, ponds, lakes, upon, within, and in any wise appertaining to, said territory: to have and to hold the above granted and bargained premises, together with all the appurtenances and privileges thereunto belonging, or in any wise appertaining, to them the said Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham, and to their heirs and assigns forever. And we, the underwritten sachems, chiefs, and warriors, do hereby covenant and engage, to and with the said Oliver

Phelps, Nathaniel Gorham, and their heirs, executors, and administrators, that we will warrant and defend the above granted and bargained premises to them, said Oliver, Nathaniel, and their heirs and assigns, against all claims whatsoever.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals, this eighth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight.

Mohawks.

Hendrink Takarihoga, and a seal and a mark.
Jos. Bran: and Thayendanegea, and a seal and a mark.
Thomas Shasennowane, and a seal and a mark.

Oneidas.

Kennawagenton, and a seal and a mark.
Shoratowane, and a seal and a mark.
Oghnaongoghton, and a seal and a mark.

Onondagoes.

Yonghwenjowanin
Sharonejowanen
Olkwenlageghte
Kagontenayen
Araghkevente
Onereraghhene
Kashighstogh
Kayendakkhengh

Cayogas.

Tekairryon
Oghnickwenton
Teyothounghgongh
Thoheres
Karonghgaetea
Ojageghte
Otstenragongh
Tekaraghgogh
Tewaghlaghgote
Oghshighanesene

(The words "and a seal and a mark" are added to each name)

The Female Governesses, or Chief Women.

Onoughsonlyon,
Karaghgoane
Kawaghlyeneaghtha
Kannonisen
Gonwaghsennawi
Kaghkearenghsha
Karoghlongho

Cayogas
Aristates
Shagoyethiwatha
Gonghsaangonte
Kanintagonra
Karenhoteix
Alayaseron
Tehaweanokee
Tetsinontawerhogh
Teghaninharingtongho
Tewataseriyage
Shoyonwesee
Tekaghsharanogeagho

(The words "and a seal and a mark," are added to each name.)

merican State Papers, Indian Affairs, vol IV. p 211)

Senecas.

Oghnenrayewaghs
Teyorenhagwente
Karontowanegh
Sholtswaas
Skinlyoghwadigh
Tekaghsakatsh
Shonoghsowane
Shegwarentonghkwe
Kanaase
Tewatogharanegea
Jonondaweaghtaghsia
Shagoyeghwatha
Kayentwaghgeh
Shonehowane
Karonghyagera
Tehahonwaghshea
Arajongwahs
Tsiskekeh
Shoghsharowane
Ratsirageron
Osawetorough
Olonghwenjachte
Teghonegwengksohane

gned, sealed and delivered in the presence
John Butler, Deputy Agent,
Sam. Kirkland, superintendent
behalf of Massachusetts.
James Dean, Interpreter,
Elisha Lee,
Jos. Brandt,
Benj. Barton,
David Smith,
Ezl. Scott.

(The words "and a seal and a mark" are added to each name.)

Pursuant to a resolution of the Legislature of Commonwealth of Massachusetts, passed March the 30th 38, I have attended a full and general treaty of the ive Nations of Indians, at the chief village in their ritory, on Buffalo creek, alias Teyoheghscolea, when foregoing instrument or deed of conveyance, made to Honorable Nathaniel Gorham, and Oliver Phelps, qrs. of a certain part of the lands belonging to the id Five Nations, the description and boundaries ereof being particularly specified in the same, was ly executed, signed, sealed, and delivered, in my presence, the sachems, chiefs, and warriors, of the above mentioned ive Nations, being fairly and properly understood and ransacted by all the parties of Indians concerned, nd declared to be done to their universal satis- action and content.

And I do certify and approve the same

Samuel Kirkland

Missionary, superintendent in behalf of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts:

I, Henry Alline, notary and tabellion public,
lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, dwelling
d practicing in Boston, within said Commonwealth,
hereby certify all whom it may concern, that the
regoing instrument or deed of conveyance, and
tion thereon, are true copies from the originals,
hich were carefully examined and compared by
e the said notary. This done at Boston aforesaid,
is twentieth day of October, in the year of
r Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my
nd, and affixed my notarial seal.

(L.S.) Henry Alline.
Notary Public, 1790.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts:

By his Excellency John Hancock, Esquire,
Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

I do hereby certify, that Henry Alline is a notary
blic, within and for the county of Suffolk, in
said Commonwealth, duly constituted and sworn,
d that, to his acts and attestations, as on this
per, full faith and credit is, and ought to be
ven, both in and out of court.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the public seal of the Commonwealth aforesaid to be hereto affixed, this twentieth day of October, Anno Domini 1790, and in the fifteenth year of the independence of the United States of America

(L. S.) John Hancock.

By his Excellency's command:
John Avery, Jun.
Secretary

A quit-claim from the Four Nations of Indians acknowledging payment.

We, the sachems, chiefs, and warriors, of the Mohawk, Onondago, Cuyahuga, and Tuscarora nations, for our-selves, and in behalf of the four nations aforesaid, have heard read and explained, in public council at this place, the papers passed between Oliver Phelps, Esq. and the Five Nations of Indians, in full and public council, at our great council fire, at Buffalo creek, in July, 1788; and find, said papers conformable to the agreement then and there made, between said Phelps and the Five Nations, and do hereby ratify and confirm said agreement, as being fairly and properly done, agreeable to the ancient customs of our forefathers; and having given up to the Seneca nation, our several proportions of the payment now due and offered to the said Five Nations by said Phelps, in a just and proper manner, in a full council of the Five Nations, viz: two thousand five hundred dollars in cash, and two thousand five hundred dollars value in goods, we hereby quit all claims, right, title, or demand, whatsoever, to all that certain tract, parcel, land, and territory, purchased from the Five Nations, by said Phelps, agreeable to the deeds given him, the said Phelps, by the Five Nations aforesaid, at Buffalo creek; and to all moneys, goods, or other payments whatsoever, due by said Phelps for said lands, except always reserving our just share and proportion of five hundred dollars, the annual rent to be paid on said lands forever.

Given under our hands and seals, at Canadqua, this 4th day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine.

Sharonyewanen, + (L. S.)
Kagondenayen, + (L. S.)
Tchodageranden, + (L. S.)
Ojageghte, + (L. S.)
Karonyagiten + (L. S.)
Skagoyeghwatha + (L. S.)
Tewaghtagote + (L. S.)
Aghshigwaresere + (L. S.)
Tekaraghke + (L. S.)
Otstenragongh + (L. S.)
Karonghyontye + (L. S.)
Thayendanegea + (L. S.)

In presence of
Samuel Street,
Lemuel Wilmet.

Attending this Year early, in order to finish the Work we have [illegible], —

A Belt of Wampum

January 21st 1788. —

Message from the Hurons of Detroit to the five Nations, —

Brethren;

Nothing yet has reached us in Answer to the Messages sent to the Americans on the breaking up of our General Council, nor is it now probable we shall hear from them before our next Meeting takes place, a circumstance that ought to Expedite us in our Business, The Nations this way have adhered hitherto to the engagements entered into before we parted, at least so far as has come to our knowledge, and we intend immediately to call them to this Council fire which shall be uncovered at the time appointed, that without further delay some decissive Measures may be finally fixed upon for our future Interest, which must govern hereafter the Conduct of all the Nations in our alliance And this we intend to be the last council for the purpose; therefore it is Needless for us to urge further the indispensible necessity of all Nations being present at the conclusion of Affairs tending so much to their future welfare and happiness and we do in a particular Manner desire you the five Nations to be strong and punctual to your promise of being with us early and in time & that not only the Warriors but the Chiefs of your Several Nations Attend on this Occasion, we shall endeavour to have as Many of the Western & Southern nations of Indians as poſsible Collected, —

Strings of Wampum

Febuary 16.th 1793,

The Hurons and Lake Indians acquainted Colo. McKee of a Meſsage they were sending to the Delawares and Shawanese requiring an answer to the invitation they had given them last year of settling in some part of the Country upon the Miamis River and if they accepted the Offer, to point out the ground they had fixed on, and the time they would remove to it, that they might apprise their several Nations therewith; at the same time, they recommended them not to think of removing further to the Westward than the Miamis Town, and to recall any of their people who might have imprudently retired to the other side of the Miſsiſipi, otherwise they would find themselves involved in darkneſs and trouble in that Country; —

onarable the Ligouslatuer of the State of New york
nvaned The Humble Polition of anumber of the Mohook
Indens in behalf of them Selves and the Rest of their
on Shueth that divers of us Were Friendly and as much atach
the Fredoum & Independence of the United States of America
any of its Inhabitents duering the Whol of the late War With
te Britian and did Suffer in Common With there Brethering
White Popell the loss of there Property and and all the
curant Calamaties of a long and Distressing War
allthogh wee Confess that many of our Popell the Mohooks
ow the Advice but more Espesaully throw the harsh and ill
ment that thay Resaived by imprudent Men and Mesuers
go over to and Joine the Troupes of the King of Grate Britian
it Was as ane Independent Popell therefore as Wee Suppose
as that there Was not any bills of Atender or confiscation Laws
sed Aganst any of the Six Nation
on the principel of our being ane Independent Popell
United States did Treat With us and did Grantee to us all
Lands from A cartan place near Nigara to the Eastward
at Were in the possession of the Six nation at the Commence
ent of the Late War in Consiquence of Which Trety all the other
tions are now in the Peaceble possession and in Joyment of
re Ancant right and Inherritance Wee only are Depriveed of ours
nd not by any Law of the United States or of this State that Wee
now of but merly by the unjust Averice and Toleance of
the Corporation of Albany and of other individuals Who
gard not common Justice nereven the Sollom Engagement
of Treties or thay Would not at least have deprived there
friends of there means of Living Who have sufired equally With
them Selves Wee are Sorry that our Good and honest Frend
Hans Crine — (now deceased) With his family and Sarah and her
numorous family and divers others of our Nation met With
so much desficulty and discurigment in there Atemtes to
recover over Rights

but Wee never the Less have the fulest confidence in the
Intogrity and Justice of the Ligouslatur so as to belie
Your honarable Boddy cannot be actuated by any lo
or provet Vues but are fully disposed to do eaqual Juste
ta all men and More Espesually where the National fait
and Honer are concarned.

Wee therefore pray the Honarable the Ligowslatuer th
all persons Inhabiting or posessing any of our howses
Lands either at Cannajoharry Fort Hunter or Ele
Where may by your athority be removed: for if Wee should in the most peasable maner atemt to Recover any of our prop
Wee have reson to think it Would be constured in to
most Wanton acts of Violence and considering our Ind
ce and Ignorence and the prjuers against Indens W
should hardly obtain our Right by Law Wee theref
pray that Wee may by your athority be a gane rein
stated into our houses Lands ~~water~~ and Inprovem
and anabled by Law to Leace or other Wise dispo
of our Lands as may seame most agreable to u
and to make choice of such persons as Wee may
think proper for agents or gardens for us as Wee m
think most Sutable

and Your Potitioners as in duty bound Wee
Ever remane your fathfull frinds

Cannajoharry 12 of January 1788

Nicholas. Onwawenmarongengh
× John Crine. Aronghyenghthar

Geadaragonra —

Hendrick Onaghtoron

Isaac Kasheghtcaghre

Thomas Shawennowne

John Deoghnenrisonghgwa

Abraham Kaghratoon

George Yowirat Roghnenghgeronde

Abraham Shotsinalongewen

Crinebrine Dekaghnawadeghgwen

Thomas Ayhdirongh

David Oghsgeanontonagh

x Peter Odeneraghthare

x Abram Onyeghthanoron

Jacob Kawegharogegh

x John Deghsagotenstha

x Honyost Roderontawenghdie

Sarah Gonatagtatiaghse

+ Utah Katsinaghronton

x Utah Kakarinrongwas

x Catherine Kageghtenyon

x Mary Gonwaseanekagh

x Sarah Kaheroghgwisere

44
+ Margaret Kanodawak
× Margaret Kanonnoagh
× Margaret Karioraghstaa
× Elizebeth Geatyoghgwinon

To the Honarable the
Legouslaluer of the
State of Newyork

A petition of Nich.s Onwawennaron-gengh and twenty seven other Mohawk Indians relative to Lands at Canajohary and Fort Hunter —

In Assembly 5th Feby 1788.

Read and referred to Mr Benson Mr Brooks and Mr Savage —

In Senate Febuy 7th - 1788

read and Committed to Mr Laurance Mr Peter Schuyler & Mr Floyd

(No. 17)

Colo. Mc. Kees Speech to the Miamis &c. &c. at Detroit the 7th. September 1787. —

Children of the Miamis, Shawanese, & Delawares
You have also informed us, of the Apprehension you are in of being immediately disturbed in your Country by the Approaches of the Americans, but from the tenor of their late Speeches to you, it would not Appear to be their present intention — It would be unneceſsary to repeat every particular of the Advice which has been uniformly Communicated to you, in the Name of your Great Father, ever since the conclusion of the War, with all his Enemies; but from the same motives of Friendship and regard for your welfare and happineſs, we again Call to your remembrance what has been said to you, and we earnestly recommend coolneſs and moderation in every part of your conduct, untill the intended General council shall Aſsemble, an event which must now very soon take place, when the united deliberations of the wise men of all the Indian Nations will enable them finally to determine upon such measures as Shall be most advantageous for their general Interest, so earnestly desired by your Great Father, whom you will ever find ready to fulfill his Engagements to you, the Extent of which has been so often mentioned to You that You cannot be in Ignorance of it, —

January 21st. 1788.

Meſsage from the Hurons of Detroit to the Seven Nations of Canada,

Bretheren, Your desire last summer to return home from this place, prevented your waiting for the Meeting of our General Council, at the same time you delivered your Sentiments to us the Hurons Requesting we would represent you in that Aſsembly we therefore take the first opportunity to acquaint you that the Measures adopted by the Nations at that Meeting are Contrary to what you proposed or we expected would be the result of their deliberations, and also that early the ensuing spring, all Nations in this Country are again to collect at our Council fire then finally to Determine upon the means neceſsary to the future welfare and interest of the people of our colour, And it is our opinion that the principal Chiefs and Warriors of all the Nations concerned be present at transacting buſineſs of so much importance, particularly as it is the last general Council we intend to call upon the Occasion, we must therefore intreat your wise men to rise and Come to this place as early as the season will permit you in the Spring, when you will be enabled to give your opinion and advice in a Buſineſs which is of so much consequence to your selves, We now intend to collect the Southern and Western Nations as soon as poſsible and Expect the five Nations will be punctual to their promise of

War Office February 4th 88.

Sir

I have the honor to transmit to your Excellency all the papers which have been received ſince the last ſeſsion of Congreſs relative to the Indian department.

No. 1. 2. 3. are letters from the Superintendant of the Northern Department containing ſeveral encloſures.

No. 4 and 5 are letters from Captain Heart who is ſtationed with a company at Venango on French Creek.

No. 6 is a letter from The Honorable Arthur St. Clair Esqr. Governor of the Western territory.

I have the honor to be
With the highest reſpect
Your Excellency's Most
Obedient Humble Servant
H Knox

His Excellency
The President of Congreſs

Letter — Feby. 4 — 1788

Secy. at War —

transmitting ~~Le~~ Letters

respecting Ind.n Dep.t —

Viz.t Nov.r 8 - 1787 - Rich.d Butler

Dec. 6 — do — do

Dec. 28 — do — do

Jan. 18 do — Jon.n Heart

Jan. 29 — do — do

Jan. 27 - 1788 - Gov.r St Clair

Read - Feby. 5th. 1788 —

(Copy)

Philadelphia Jany 27. 1788.

Sir

It is now near four weeks ſince I returned from Fort Pitt, and ere this ſhould have waited upon you in person had I not been prevented by a ſlight indisposition while the daily expectation of being able to do ſo made me decline writing.

I ſaw Genl. Butler at Carlisle on my way to the westward; but it was the 12th of December when I was on the return, before I met with him in that Country; the weakneſs of his leg, and ſickneſs in his family had hindered him from proceeding earlier.

The intelligence respecting the diſpoſition of the Indians that I was able to obtain at Fort Pitt was not very ſatisfactory — indeed it amounted to little more than that they had been extremely anxious to ſee some persons with authority from the United States to treat with them — that, in that expectation, and in consequence of a request they had made to that purpose, there had been a considerable aſsembly on the Tawa River, but their expectations not having been fulfilled, it had been concluded to ſend one other Meſsage to Congreſs, and to wait four months for an answer. The Deputy for Indian Affairs at Fort Pitt had forwarded the Meſsage to the Superintendant without taking a copy so that I had not so perfect an opportunity as I could have wished to judge of its spirit. I have however taken meaſures to be informed of what paſsed at that meeting and to get probably at the bottom of their designs which with them as well as more civilized nations, are not always what they are professed to be, and about the 5th of March I expect to be possessed of it. — From all accounts however there is a great deal of uneasiness amongst them, and it is clear to me that if it cannot be removed, a very general War will ensue. Whether that uneasiness can be removed I own I think doubtful, for though we hear much of the Injuries and depredations that are committed by the Indians upon the frontiers, there is too much reason to believe that at least equal if not greater Injuries are done to the Indians by the frontier settlers of which we hear very little. — It was notwithstanding my decided opinion that the treaty ought to be made, and in that opinion Genl. Butler perfectly coincided, and the falls of Muskingum is fixed upon for the place of treaty. and Invitations have been sent by the Superintendant to the different nations to meet us there on the first of May next, a point of time that was supposed to be as early in the season as they could attend at, and a place more equally convenient to them, and us, than any other they would agree to. — It is about seventy miles from the mouth of the river and navigable for boats to the spot. The mode I think of for managing the Treaty is this — that the Goods be deposited in the Fort at the mouth of the river while Genl. Butler and myself meet the Indians at the Falls. — Should the business come to a favorable issue they can easily be brought up and distributed,

—It

— If it does not come to a favorable iſsue they are in Safety. I have great reason to expect that the meeting will be very numerous, and it is therefore to be regretted that the Finances of the United States would not permit a more liberal appropriation of money, more eſpecially as the objects are very important in many points of view. And that they are frequently receiving very great presents from the British — last autumn six thousand pounds sterling in money, under the idea of a compensation for loſses ſustained by them in the late war, and Goods to an equal value were distributed among them by that Nation, and notwithstanding the advice they receive from Lord Dorchester to remain at peace with the United States, there can be little doubt that the jealousies they entertain and the uneaſineſses which agitate them are fomented by the Agents of that Crown.

It was a great disappointment that I could not avail myſelf of the liberty you were pleased to grant to open any letters from Genl. Harmar to you which I might meet with on the way — The intelligence they must have contained, would have determined me as to the neceſsity of inviting the Nations upon the Wabash. I ſaw at Fort Pitt Lieutenant Smith who had been with Genl. Harmar in that Country, but could get nothing from him that was ſatiſfactory, and therefore concluded it would be proper to invite them and they have accordingly been invited — their distant ſituation however renders it probable that they will not come in numbers.

On the whole Sir. it appears to me from every view I could take of this subject, and every Information that I have been able to obtain that the prop Establishments in the Country north west of the Ohio, and the further sale of lands there for the discharg of the public debt depend entirely on a solid Peac with the Indians.- to effect that no pains will be spared on my part, but after all that can be don unless the Inhabitants of the States that border upon them can be restrained from acts of violenc and injustice towards them, it can never be of long continuance. A General Indian War, whil it would involve thousands in the most extrem distress, would be attended with such an expenc as our present Situation would render highly unadviseable.

No. 6

I have the honor to be with great respect

Sir

Your most Obedient
Humble Servant.

(Signed) Ar. St Clair.

The Honble. Major General Knox
Secretary at War.

(Copy)

Carlisle, Novr 1st 1787.

Sir.

I was honored with your favors of the 12th & 16th ultimo, on the 23rd, enclosing resolutions of Congreſs of the 3rd, 5th & 12th, with a packet for Major Doughty to be forwarded.

Having been led to expect that Congreſs were fully impreſsed with the neceſsity of giving the Indians an opportunity of a general meeting as soon as poſsible in consequence of their own application for that purpose and the various information transmitted by me, I held myself in full readineſs to proceed to the west, or to New York as I might be directed; but on receipt of the above mentioned packet I found myself in a very embarraſsed situation being thereby left totally without a guide, and without directions to make any kind of apology or to give the least encouragement on the subject of a treaty to the indians. To go to Fort Pitt I know a body of Indians would immediately collect in consequence of the late meſsage of Congreſs to the nations which would be attended with considerable expence, and for me to have nothing to say to them must have rendered my situation (to say the least) very disagreeable, and them diſsatisfied — Thus circumstanced I recollected that I had the honor to write you on the 10th and 11th October by the Honorable Mr White of North Carolina enclosing some papers on Indian Affairs that could not have reached your hand at the time theſe letters came away, but must shortly after, which determined me to wait an answer to them judging that Congreſs might probably be induced to give some directions on the present exigency of Indian Affairs and troubled state of the frontiers a majority of Congreſs being empowered by the resolution of the 12th which repeals the resolution of the 5th. and would not have troubled you with this under that expectation, had I not this day received the enclosed alarming accou from Mr James Rinken, and my brother Col Butler who has transacted the Indian busineſs under my direction since the misfortune of my leg.

Every act of Congreſs I believe to be founded on the most deliberate judgment and beſt of principles, or have I the most distant wish to induce a deviation from any established rule or system, but I conceive it my duty now and I flatter myself it will not be thought presuming in me to mention that it is my real opinion some measure ought to be intermediately adopted to keep the indians in temper until a treaty can be held as they request, otherwise I fear our frontier will be again deluged in blood. It is the most painful reflection of my life, not only on account of my personal sufferings, but my public character, that in my endeavor to get to New York to explain matters personally on these subjects to Congreſs and yourself I have by accident been prevented so long from rendering that personal service to the United States which from my knowledge of Indian Affairs and influence with and over them I could have done; and whatever may be supposed to the contrary, my advice and speeches I am confident have hitherto been of use, and were I permitted to do any thing might yet be so - This rests with Congreſs, and as their servant shall wait their directions - It will give me great pleasure to hear from you as expeditiously as possible, and any orders or instructions relative to the department with which you may honor me shall be punctually and immediately carried into effect.

Interim I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect and regard,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servant

(Signed) Richd. Butler.

Honorable
Major General Knox
Secretary at War.

The Superintendt: Indian Affairs -
Northern department - His Letter
to the Secretary at War —

Carlisle, Nov: 1st. 1787.

(Copy)

Carlisle Decr. 6th 1787

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 12th Novr. enclosing the copy of a Resolution of Congreſs of the 27th of Octr. aſsociating me with the Governor of the western territory in transacting the buſineſs of a treaty with the Indian Nations (provided he may think ſuch treaty neceſsary) the original of which with other Resolves of Congreſs and your letter of the 24th Octr. had previously come to hand. These previous resolves were the cause of my not proceeding to Fort Pitt at that time knowing that a number of Indians would collect on my arrival there which would cause expense without benefit to the United States, they having taken all authority in the Indian Department out of my hand and placed it in another channel. But the latter Resolution having (in part) done away these obstacles to my acting, and having had the pleasure of ſeeing the Governor on his way to Ligonier, determined my going on as ſoon as I received a packet from Col. [illegible] which I had heard was on the way and feared miſsing had gone on. These letters which I have the honor to enclose copies of, came to hand last night. I would have ſent on the Originals but conceiving them neceſsary for the better directing the Governors judgement in determining or deciding on the utility of a treaty (which Congreſs have been pleased to refer entirely to his judgment) I thought it best to take them on, and ſhall ſet out to-morrow morning to meet and consult on, or receive his opinion on this interesting ſubject, which now ſeems to become ſerious- And as you are pleased to desire will endeavour to obtain and transmit every useful information and ſtate of Indian Affairs or any other useful ſubject in my power- And as the buſineſs of that department has taken a noleſs unexpected turn to me, tho' it is injurious to my private circumstances and the previous arrangements made (having expended a large ſum of my own money in order to accomodate my family and place myself in a central and convenient ſituation to watch the motions and conduct of the Indians and others critically and to be ready at all times to diffuse the orders of Congreſs with ease and regularity through the Indian nations, and to go with facility to every quarter neceſsary to transact their buſineſs with dispatch which with the ſecret arrangements I have made for the purpose of gaining certain and regular intelligence of every useful nature are now rendered entirely useleſs to me ſhould the present arrangement be continued or adhered to.) will endeavour to bring all the accounts which have neceſsarily accrued under my administration to a close in order that they may not interfere in the future mode of transacting the buſineſs.

How Politic it may be to place (in the room of an officer who has no other than the Indian department to attend to, and which his whole time and talents have been and ſhould be devoted) a Gentlemen whose ſtation as Governor of the western territory will probably be the moſt obnoxious to the Indians being the head of a body of people who Congreſs are told will be considered by them as intruders on their Country, and who will consequently be viewed by them as the leader and ſupporter of their greatest enemies, to be the only person who is to hear their complaints and lay their allegations before Congreſs, and transact all public buſineſs with them, and who (being a jealous people) they will place no confidence in but deceive if poſsible upon all occasions, may probably yet have weight with Congreſs and induce a review or reconsideration of these Resolves — Let this be the case or not, so long as it has been the pleasure of Congreſs to aſsociate me in the probable duties of a Treaty, and so long as I have the honor to be their ſervant, the respect which I owe to Congreſs, the regard which I have for the peace and welfare of my Country, and my own character, and the ſervices which (by long ſtudy of the duties of the Office) I conceive are in my power to render on this occasion, as well as the personal attachment which I have for the Governor, will induce every exertion on my part in the buſineſs, and I wish you to be aſsured Sir that every matter or thing which the Governor may

think

thinks proper to consult me upon shall be attended to with justice and my opinion given with candor.

I have the honor to be Sir

(Signed) Richd. Butler.

Honble. Major General Knox
Secty at War.

VI

The Superintendt. of Indian Affairs - Northern department - His Letter to the Secretary at War.
Carlisle Decr. 6th 1787.

(Copy)

Pittsburgh 25th Decr 1787.

Dr Sir

On my way up I had the honor to ſee the Governor of the weſtern territory at Ligonier, who was pleased to inform me that he had concluded to hold a treaty with the Indian Nations of the northern district at the falls of Muskingum about seventy miles from the Ohio on the first of May next, and entered into a contract for proviſions for the ſame — We there agreed on the kind of meſsages to be ſent to the Indian Nations, which I have prepared and will ſend forth as ſoon as proper and trusty perſons can be procured which I expect will be ſhortly — We also concluded on the quantity and value of goods to be purchased, including what may be at the Rapids of the Ohio which I ſhall direct to be brought to Muskingum as early as poſsible in the Spring.

The places proposed to hold the treaty may probably anſwer, simply for the purpose of meeting the nations — But I conceive it to be my duty (and hope it will not be thought preſuming) to inform you that I am clearly of opinion that unleſs ſome commanding places are taken poſseſsion of which will awe the Indians and preclude the British intercourse with them only

frontiers can never be at ease or in ſafety and that
Treaties will be of little or no avail — The places I
would beg leave to recommend to be poſseſsed are th
old Miami Town high on the great Miami river.—
— The ground at the lower end of the lower Rapids
of said river and at Cuyahoga — The posts which I ha
mentioned before now with proper garrisons would
awe the Indians better protect the ſettlers on the ne
Country and secure the trade with the Indians, besi
keeping the British from that free intercourse they
now have with them — and whatever may be ſaid
of their pacific advice, that agent Mr. McKee
and his son besides two British officers did
certainly attend at the late Shawnee Council at the
Miami where goods, ammunition and cash we
very liberally distributed, but for what purposes
I will not ſay, though I suspect we ſhall find no
good arise to us from them. I expect in a ſhort
time to know their whole proceedings and the
result of their Council of which you ſhall be inform

I am told and believe it true that the Indians
who committed the murders which I mentioned
last to you were Miamis and Chippewas, that th
perpetrators were but three, but that many more
formed the party — this ſhall be better authenticated

— I am collecting the whole expense accounts of the
Indian Department ſince the commencement of my
office in this quarter and expect to be in New Yor
ſhortly for ſettling the ſame, at which time I hope
to

to give fuller accounts of things in general - It is reported that two men are lately killed and two more missing near Grove Creek on the Ohio. it is not fully authenticated though believed here - this shall be ascertained also.

I have the honor to be &c

(Signed) Richd Butler.

Honble Major Genl Knox
Secty at War

P.S. There are two substantial Reasons why I think the posts which I have mentioned should be possessed (one of which did not exist till the Indians formed their confederation) First the Delawares and Wyandots on our side of the Lake are satisfied with the Country assigned them at the Treaty of McIntosh and Miami - Secondly it would cut or divide the confederated tribes of the northern district in two and place the Delawares and Wyandots of our side (who were dragoon'd into the confederating measure) on an independent footing from the others and cover, command and attach them to our own interest, and I fear if this is not done Treaties will answer but small purpose.

(Signed) Richd Butler.

Bond

3

The Superintendt. Indian Affairs
Northern Department – His Letter
to the Secretary at War —
— Pittsburgh 25th Decr 1787.

(Copy)

French Creek, 18th October 1787

Sir

Previous to Colonel Harmar's leaving Muskingum in June last he was pleased to direct that in future should any thing very particular happen at this poſt, which appeared of immediate consequence as he should be at so gre a diſtance it would be neceſsary to make report directly to the Honorable the Secretary at War — Since which time nothing has happened of ſufficient moment to authorise a deviation from the custom of making all reports to the officer immediately commanding until the following intelligence which I have from a gentleman directly from Niagara — He says that on the 12th of September the Council which had been holding opposite Fort Erie broke up the Indians having received Six thousand pounds in Specie and Six thousand pounds in goods — that about the 20th Col Brant left Niagara for Detroit with a great quantity of arms and ammunition — that a number of warriors of the Mohawks, Irondagas, Maſsasauges, a few Senecas and ſome white people who had been with him in the late war went with him and that sixteen batteaux of Warriors followed after him; — that Brant said he was going to hold a treaty with the Virginians, but previous to his departure he sung the War-song in which he was joined by the above warriors — About ten days since Brant with the ſame party left Detroit, they then said they were going to kindle a great council fire near Wheeling, and intended to call all the indians to it; but it is added there is no room to doubt but their object iſ to aſsist the Shawanoes and Western Indians — Brant was heard to say "If the white-people want fighting I'll give them enough of it." In confirmation of the above a very trusty Indian from Conewaga about 20 miles above this place says he saw a brother of the Cornplanter's who was at the late Council and says that Col: Butler made them a speech and told them, the king their father had sent them a few preſents, which were ready for them at Niagara — that they muſt be ready to take up the hatchet whenever their father called them, which would be ſoon &c — the Indian further said the Cornplanter would not let his tribe receive the preſents which consisted of arms and ammunition —

The Cornplanter will be at this post within a few days, when I shall be able to learn every particular, which I shall not fail of communicating immediately, in the mean time thought it my duty to report the above circumſtantial account.

From the time of my arrival at this place, the Senecas particularly those living near French Creek have discovered the moſt friendly aſ well as peacable disposition I am confident they are not as a tribe disposed to take up the hatchet — The Cornplanter abovementioned, one of their principal Chiefs has uniformly manifested an attachment to the United States.

I have the honor to be, with due respect,

Sir

Your most obt. & humble Servt.

(Signed) Jona. Heart.

The Honorable

The Secretary at War.

N 4

Capt. Jonathan Heart's letter
to the Secretary at War —
French Creek, 18th October 1787.

(Copy.)

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Extract of a letter from Captain Jonathan Heart, to the Secretary at War

French Creek, 29th October 1787.

Sir.

Nothing very material has happened since my letters of the 19th Inst. more than a general concurrence of the Indians, that Colonel Brant is gone with a number of warriors to the westward – The Seneca tribes and those of the Munsee tribes living on the Alleghany give every aſsurance of peace – The Munsees are now with me, have a speech to deliver, the general purport of which they tell me is to give aſsurances of their peace, that they do not intend to join in a war, begging they may not be disturbed or drove from their present village and hunting-ground, and that they may be permitted to trade with the Americans as heretofore. –

Extract of a Letter from Capt.
Jona: Heart, to the Secretary
at War – French Creek, 29th Oct: 1787.

(229)

CANADA.

STATE RECORDS.

No. 1788

Name Indians
Address Lake of the Two Mountains
Date 8th February

SUBJECTS:

Claim to the Seigniory of the Lake of the Two Mountains.

CONTENTS:

Speech

Indian Department Office
Montreal February the 8th 1788.

Minutes of a Speech addressed to Sir John Johnson Bart. Superintendant General & Inspector General of Indian Affairs, by the principal Chiefs of the Village of Lake of two Mountains assembled in Council.

Aghneetha, the principal Chief, Speaker ----

Father,

We thank the Great Spir pleasure of seeing you here today in good health, and we earnestly pray He will take you under His protection & grant you a long life of uninterrupted happiness that you may still continue to guide & direct our your ignorant Children and relieve their distressed Women & Infants.

Father

We beg you will clear your Eyes and open your Ears that you may fully comprehend what we are going to say to you.

Father

The minds of our old Men have been a good deal disturbed lately and our hearts still continue to be very sorely + grieved for we begin to be sensible that our distresses are greater than we apprehended, and we fear we will be a poor neglected People unless you will stretch out your hand to relieve us and use your endeavours to quiet the fears of your ignorant Children ~~our Old Men, Women & Children~~.

Father,

Before the Wall was built around this ~~City~~ Town we lived ~~under~~ at the foot of the Mountain, near to where the Priests of the Seminary have their Country ~~House~~ Seat, where we resided in peace & tranquility a considerable time, when the Priest settled amongst us, & the other Clergy of this Island represented + in council the inconveniences ~~the~~ ~~ill consequences~~ both to the white People from ~~of~~ our living so near a Town particularly the disorders committed by some of our Young Men, (as they alledged) when they got drunk, and they exhorted us strenuously to remove further off from the Town where we would be more quiet & happy, and pointed out to us Sault de Recollet as the Spot near to the Priests Mills, accordingly we ~~agreed~~ complied, left our habitations & moved with our Wives & Children to the place allotted for us where we resided in twenty three or twenty four Years. Then again our Priest in conjunction with the Clergy of the Seminary of Montreal, told us ~~[illegible]~~ we should remove once more with our Families for that it was no longer proper that any Indians should live on this Island and that if we would consent to go and settle at the Lake of two Mountains we should have a large tract of Land for which we should have a Deed from the King of France as our property, to be vested in us and our heirs for ever & that we ~~would~~ should ~~never~~ not be molested again in our habitations.- altho' it was very inconvenient to us to be quiting our houses & small clearings, yet the desire of having a fixed property of our own induced us to comply, and we accordingly set out and took possession of the Land assigned to us, and as was the custom of our Fore-fathers, we immediately set about making a Belt (which we w now deliver to you) by which our Children would see that the Land was to be theirs for ever, and, as was ~~usual~~ customary with our Ancestors, we placed the figure of a Dog at each end of the Belt to guard our property and to give notice whe an Enemy approached, and as soon as it was finished we spre it on the ground and covered it with earth that no evil minded persons should find it, where it remained undisturbed till about

Seven Years ago when a dispute arose between us and some Canadians living near us who first settled on our Lands under the idea of trading with us, [illegible] and who about this time wished to make some agreement with us for their Lotts if we would engage to prevent our Cattle from breaking into their Corn fields, this we offered to do if they would agree to pay us for their Lotts & the use of the Common a Dollar for each head of Cattle they possessed. The matter was referred to our late Priest who said a half a Dollar would be sufficient, and on our refusing to comply with his decision, he told us not to insist on any terms for that the Land did not belong to us, no not as much as the Smallest shrub, however the Canadians agreed to pay us annually a Dollar a head for the Cattle &c and a half a Dollar to the Priest who

7.

who we then learnt had hitherto reced a Dollar & a half for each Horse & Cow &ca pilfered by the Canadians, and ~~but~~ altho' this matter was then settled, the declaration of our Priest hung heavy on our minds and made us uneasy ever since;

Father

You ~~must recollect~~ are well acquainted with our Situation previous to the last French War, and that we were under the necessity of taking an Active part with the King of France, but before Montreal was taken by the English, many ~~[illegible]~~ ~~we~~ of us became sensible of our error, and as a first step towards a reconciliation with our Father the King of England we came to a resolution ~~discovered our Senses and resolved~~ to return all the Prisoners taken by us during the War, accordingly we collected them and conveyed them to your worthy Father the late Sir William Johnson, at Fort Johnson, who received us kindly and accepted our submissions, and he soon after sent us back with a Message to

the Seven Nations of Canada to
acquaint them that the Great King
of England was still willing to
forgive the errors of the poor deluded
Indians of Canada who were
ensnared into the quarrel, and that
he would receive all those who
sincerely repented and would come
in to sue for protection, but if
after this warning they still persisted
in their former conduct and blindly
rushed on to make any opposition
to the ~~troops~~ Armies that would soon March
into their Country, He would
extirpate ~~these whole~~ all those Nations and
raze their Villages to the ground.
We returned to Canada and faithfully
delivered this Message which was
attended to by a great Many # of our People but
some of our Young Men were still
headstrong and would not believe
that the French General would be
obliged to quit America as they
were told. Soon after we
received another

received another Message at our
Village from Sir William Johnson,
who was then at Oswegatchie, to the same
purport as the one we brought in,
and further telling us that it should be
the last we would receive from him
while he looked upon us as Enemies
- we immediately called a Council
and determined to accept of the
Protection held out to us, and
accordingly the principal Men
of our Village, as well as those
from the other Villages, at [illegible]
Sir William at Oswegatchie
where he received the submissions
of all the Deputies from Canada
and there in a full Council
granted us protection in the
Kings Name and confirmed to
us our Lands as granted by the
King of France and the free
exercise of our Religion with
the indulgence of a Priest to
reside in our Village, in
confirmation

confirmation of which he delivered us the Belt which we now lay at your Feet, and had we any doubts

respecting the Tenure by which we hold our Lands, we would then Petition to have a new Deed lodged with Sir William in Trust for us.

[illegible] We have now # opened our hearts and made our Fears Known to you, and we ~~hope~~ trust you are sensible that our Minds labour under a heavy burden from which it is our earnest prayer that you will endeavour to relieve us. Use your Interest with the Governor in Chief, Lord Dorchester, that a new Deed for the Lands we live on be made out for us, and that we may hold ~~our Lands~~ them by the same Tenure that ~~[illegible]~~ the Mohawks at Grand River & Bay de Quinte hold theirs.

Delivers the large Belt made on occasion of the first settlement of the Indians at the Lake of Two Mountains.

Minutes of a
Speech addressed
to Sir John Johnson
by the Chiefs of the
Village of Lake of
two Mountains
8th Feby 1788

To the honorable the Legislature of
the State of New York —

The Memorial of the subscribers, Inhabitants and Citizens of the City of Hudson respectfully sheweth —

That we are apprehensive, that a Number of Persons within this State, have by Secret and unwarrantable means, obtained a Lease from the Indians of a Large Tract of Land commonly called or known by the Name of the Genasee Country —

The private Manner in which they have Conducted this Buſineſs has had no small share in exciting our jealousy with respect to the Propriety of their Proceedings. — The subſcribers are fully convinced, that the aforesaid tract of territory is clearly the Property of this State. — The jurisdiction Lines being aſcertained between this and the Neighbouring States, and the Compact subsisting between this State and Maſsachuſetts, we think fixes it beyond a Doubt — And That the People of this State have ever considered it ſo, is evident from the Expence they have been at, in aſcertaining the jurisdiction Lines —

We are informed, that the Aſsociats above mentioned have already preferred a Petition to the honorable Legislature praying to be Confirmed in their said Lease. — We humbly conceive that if they obtain a Confirmation, it will be greatly to the injury of the poor People of this State —

We should think we were deficient in our duty to the State and ourselves, if we should omit to

Mention

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Ment[illegible], That a Number of the Members
Legislature, are said to be Concerned in the
– From which Circumstance our apprehensions ar
=creased – And we Conceive that a Confirmation un
such a situation of Members would have a ten
to Excite Uneasiness and [illegible] in the minds o
Good People of this State — We Therefore humbly
=quest, that the honorable Legislature, as the Guar
of the Peoples Rights, do take the matter into their
Consideration, and make such provision as shal
Effectual to prevent any such Monopoly of th
General Property of the State – and secure us i
against any such Combinations, which in the
=tures, must have a tendency to Disturb the Pea
and tranquility of this State

Stephen Paddock
Thos. Jenkins
Benjn. Folger
Marshal Jenkins
Thos. Worth
Shubael Worth
Cotton Gelston
Peter Barnard
Lemuel Jenkins
Hezekiah Dayton
John R. Bolles
Thos. [illegible]
Ephraim Whitaker
John Hewitt

Paul Dakin
Thomas Power
John Alsop
Walter Johnson
[illegible] Taylor
John Hussey
Francis Clark
Benjamin Gray
Nathan [illegible]
Banjamin Russell
Francis Jenkins
John Powell
Richard McDaniel
Noah Nason

Thos. Clark
[illegible]
[illegible] Clark
Reuben Ma

nkins
llai Bunker

Thomas Jenkins Benjamin
Folger and others, in opposition
to the Leases to John Livingston
and others —

In assembly Mar: 1.1788

Committed to a
Committee of the
whole House.

(Nº.209)

Proceedings

of the Commiſsioners appointed
by the Statute
Entitled.
"An Act for appointing
Commiſsioners to hold Treaties
with the Indians
within this State"
Paſsed
the first Day of March
one thousand seven hundred
and
eighty eight.

Proceedings of the Commiſsioners appointed by the Statute Entitled "An Act for appointing Commiſsioners "to hold Treaties with the Indians "within this State" Paſsed the first Day of March one thousand seven hundred and eighty eight.

At a Meeting of the Commiſsioners at the Court House in Poughkeepsie in the County of Dutcheſs the third Day of March 1788.

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton
William Floyd, Ezra L'Hommedieu, Richard Varick, Samuel Jones & Egbert Benson

Resolved, that a Treaty be held with the six Nations of Indians at Fort Schuyler on the tenth Day of July next; That a Meſsage for this Purpose be sent to the six Nations and that Mr Varick and Mr Benson prepare a Draft thereof and report the same to this Board at their next Meeting.

Resolved that John Tayler of the City of Albany Esquire be appointed Agent to this Board at Albany to manage such Buſineſs in Relation to the Commiſsion as shall from time to time become neceſsary; That a Letter be written to him informing him of his Appointment and that Mr Varick and Mr Benson prepare a Draft thereof and report the same to this Board at their next Meeting.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners at
the Court House in Poughkeepsie in the
County of Dutchess the tenth Day of
March 1788.

Present.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.
William Floyd,
Ezra L'Hommedieu,
Richard Varick
Samuel Jones
&
Egbert Benson.

Mr. Benson reported to the Board a Draft of the Message to the six Nations of Indians which being read was amended and agreed to by the Board and is in the Words following.

"Sachems and Warriors of the six Nations! Open your Ears to the Voice of the great Council of the State of New York; for in their Name We now speak to You.

Altho the late War has for a Time interrupted that brotherly Intercourse which was so pleas to You and our Ancestors yet we have never been unmindful of the Friendship which was between them and which it is our earnest Desire should forever remain between You and Us. With this good Disposition which has been given us by the great Spirit above we met You in a Treaty at Fort Schuyler shortly after the general Peace and with the same Disposition we now wish to meet You again in a Treaty at Fort Schuyler on the tenth Day of July ne as well to brighten the Chain and renew the Covenant which has so long bound us together, as to confer with You on Matters of very great Importance to our mutual Happineſs and Welfare.

Brethren

We have heard that some of our People have been among You to purchase by taking a Lease of your Lands from You without the Consent of our great Council and contrary to the good old Rule and Custom which has always been between Your Fore-fathers and ours and between You and Us. (a)x Listen to our Advice This is one of the Principal Matters about which we wish to talk with You and we advise
21/2 You [as well for the Sake of yourselves and your Children and Children's Children as for our own Sakes that You will not suffer any of these People to come and settle on your Lands.

Brethren

These People who have been to purchase your Lands have been disobedient Children to their Fathers, our great Council.

Brethren!

A Belt will be delivered to You in Confirmation of this our Meſsage to You.

Mr Benson also reported to the Board a Draft of a Letter from the Board to John Taylor Esquire which being read and amended was agreed to, and is in the Words following.

Sir,

By an Act of the Legislature at the present Seſsions We are appointed Commiſsioners to hold Treaties with the Indians within this State and have agreed that You should be our Agent in Albany to manage such Busineſs in Relation to the Commiſsion as shall from time to time become neceſsary and we flatter ourselves that the Appointment will not be inconvenient to You. We have for the present entrusted to your Care our Meſsage to the Indians which You will herewith receive and which we request You to forward to them as soon as poſsible in such Manner as You shall suppose best, so that they may receive it with Certainty. You will observe that it will be neceſsary to provide a proper Belt to accompany the Meſsage. We must also depend upon You for an immediate Communication of the Answer from the Indians and we we shall then have it in our Power to determine as to Provisions and other Requisites for the Treaty which we shall intrust You to procure and will furnish You with Money as well for that Purpose as for paying the Meſsenger or Meſsengers as You may find neceſsary to employ to convey the Meſsage to the Indians. The holding of the proposed Treaty with the Indians is of the utmost Importance and we commit it to your Discretion to use such Means for effecting this Object as You shall deem proper, notwithstanding our particular Instructions at presen do not extend beyond the Sending of our Meſsage to the Indians. We are Sir,

Your most obedt. Servts.

By Order of the Board.

Geo: Clinton.

John Tayler Esquire
Albany.

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Resolved, that his Excellency the Governor be requested to write to his Excellency the Governor of the Commonwea of Maſsachusetts informing him of the Proceedings of this Board and requesting that the Commonwea of Maſsachusetts will join in the proposed Treaty.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners at the House of Stephen Hendrickson in Poughkeepsie in the County of Dutchess the twelfth Day of March 1788.

Present
His Excellency Governor Clinton
William Floyd } { Samuel Jones
Ezra L'Hommedieu } { &
Richard Varick } { Egbert Benson

The Governor laid before the Board a Paper signed by several Indians of the Oneida Nation and attested by Matthew Lyne respecting the Purchase made of some of their Nation by Caleb Benton, Ezekiel Gilbert and others and Mr. Lyne appeared before the Board and was examined; Thereupon

Resolved That a Message be sent to the Oneida Nation, and that Mr. Benson prepare a Draft thereof.
Resolved further That a Letter be written to John Taylor Esquire to accompany the Message to the Oneida Nation, and that Mr. Benson prepare a Draft thereof.

Mr. Benson laid before the Board a Draft of a Message to the Oneida Nation, which being read and amended, was agreed to by the Board, and is in the Words following;

Brothers.

A Paper purporting to be a Message to the Assembly of this State and signed with the Names of several Indians of your Nation, has been received by the Legislature of this State and has by them been delivered over to me and the other Persons whom they have appointed Commissioners on their Behalf to hold Treaties with the Indians. The Commiſsioners had previously resolved to hold a Treaty with the six Nations at Fort Schuyler on the 10th of July next, and I send to You for your Information a Copy of the Meſsage to the six Nations of Indians inviting them to the Treaty. At the Treaty the several Matters in the above mentioned Papers contained will be fully considered, and in the mean Time my Advice to You and your People is that You keep Peace and Order among Yourselves, and by no Means suffer any Persons to come and settle on your Lands. It is earnestly our Wish, that as many of your People do attend the Treaty as poſsible, as the Buſineſs to be there transacted is of the greatest Importance both to You and Us.

Mr Benson also laid before the Board a Draft of a Letter from his Excellency the Governor to John Tayler Esquire, which was read and agreed to by the Board, and is in the Words following.

Sir,

Since the closing of our Letter to You of the 10th instant the Legislature has delivered over to us the Papers inclosed in this Dispatch — They were received by the Aſsembly under a Cover only, and without any farther Communication, and brought to this Place by Mr Matthew Lyne and who appears to have been employed expreſsly for the Purpose. These Papers are communicated to You as poſsibly containing some Information which may be of Use to You in your Endeavours to promote the Public Interest with Respect to the great Object of the Treaty. From Mr Lyne's Information the Paper purporting to be a Meſsage from the Oneidas in an English

Translation the Original being in French, as was signed at Oneida. Three or four Indians only came with it to Schenectady, and they may still be there. We would suggest to You that probably it would be useful if You was to go to Schenectady and converse with those Indians and inform them generally of the Measures we have taken for holding the general Treaty. The Letter from the Governor to the Oneidas which is left open for your Perusal, is also to be forwarded as soon as poſsible.

At a Meeting of the Commiſsioners at the House of Walter Heyer in the City of New York the 10th Day of April 1788.

Present.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.
John Lawrence } Samuel Jones
Richard Varick } Egbert Benson.

The Governor laid before the Board a Letter from John Taylor Esquire to him of 20th ulto. accepting of his Appointment as Agent and also another Letter from Mr. Taylor of the 9th inst. covering Copy of his (Mr. Taylor's) Speech to some Indians of the Oneida Nation with a Copy of their Answer thereto which are in the Words following.

Albany 20th March 1788.

Sir

Your Favours of the 10th and 12th instant with the several Inclosures were delivered me the 17th since which I have not been able to procure a trusty Meſsenger to the six Nations as a great Number in this City are concerned in the Long Lease. Mr. John

Bleeker the most conversant in the Indian Language and Manners and not interested with Livingston objects to going as the Breaking up of the Winter has rendered the Roads almost impaſsable. I set off immediately for Schenectady. The Indians who brought the Petition to that Place which was handed to the Legislature stayed with him. I think he may direct me to proper Persons, if I can not procure one there I will go to the German Flatts or farther if neceſsary. So many Obstructions will be thrown in the Way of this Buſineſs that it will be neceſsary to conduct this Matter with the utmost Caution. Livingston is to make the Indians a Payment the 25th Inst. I shall from time to time send your Excellency such Information as I obtain, and will be happy to execute any Directions You may think proper to forward me. I am Your Excellency's

most Obt Servant

Geo Clinton.

John Tayler.

Sir

In my Letter of the 19th ultimo to your Excellency I mentioned that I intended setting out immediately for Schenectady. On my Arrival I called on Mr Penet. This Gentleman offered me every Aſsistance in his Power. The Ice in the River could not be paſsed, I was therefore obliged to return and wait until the 20th at which Time I croſsed and went to Fort Schuyler accompanied by Mr Lebon who trades at Oneida for Mr Penet. The great Depth of Snow in that Country obliged me to go on Foot from the German Flatts and rendered it very difficult to proceed any farther

I dispatched a Man to Oneida and four Days after Col.o Louis, Schonondo, Peter the Beach tree, Capt.n David and an Onondago Chief arrived, the only principal Men that were in the Castle, except Jacob Reed; the others were out hunting. I delivered your Meſsage together with that for the six Nations with a Belt and left a Copy of the Meſsage to the six Nations with them and prevailed on Col.o Louis and Schonondo to deliver it to the Senecas. As Peter had been in Favour of Livingston, I thought it proper to say something to them a copy of which I inclose, and an Abstract of their Answer. The Indians have engaged to set out immediately and expect to return in three Weeks to me at Albany. I shall instantly forward their Answer to You.

A Mr. De Bergh from Tioga, a Clerk to Mr. Penet, came to Schenectady while I was above, and informed that Livingston had sent fourteen Slays laden with Goods into the Indian Country. They got within 50 Miles of Tioga, and could proceed no farther: That the Senecas were exceedingly diſsatisfied with Livingston, and were determined not to abide by the Bargain; charging him with having cheated them, and threatened Ryckman for having aſsisted him in cheating them; That near 160 Families were at Tioga with a considerable Number of Cattle, in Order to form a Settlement on those Lands but were very much at a loſs as they had heard that the State were determined to prevent any Settlement being made. Mr. Penet dispatched De Bergh with your Proclamation to shew those People and the Indians; and desired him to inform the Indians that a Meſsage from the Governor for them had gone to the Westward

The Distresses of the Indians are so great, owing to the long Winter, that if Mr. Livingston thinks proper to deliver Goods to them they will receive them, but I am convinced it will have no Effect so as to prevent the Treaty taking Place. Colo. Louis assisted Livingston at the Treaty, and told me that Mr. Livingston said he was authorized by the State. He has a Demand against him and is much dissatisfied, and I am persuaded will execute the Trust I have reposed in him, with the utmost Fidelity. If anything should suggest itself necessary for me to do I shall be happy in being favoured with your Commands. I am with the utmost Esteem, Your Excellency's most obedient & most humble Servt.

Albany 9th April 1788.

John Tayler.

Governor Clinton.

Brothers

The Governor and Great Men of the State of New York have received your Message and have listened to what You said unto them. They have sent an Answer by me. I would not intrust their Message to anyone but resolved to come & see You myself. The Roads are so bad that I could not get farther than this Place. I have sent for You, Sachems and Warriors, to meet me here — I am glad to see You, and will now deliver the Message.

Brothers.

I have likewise another Message from your Father the Governor to the six Nations which he desired me to send to them, ~~and he~~ and he told me that the safest Way was to send it by some of the Oneidas, as he was sure his

Friends the Oneidas would deliver it carefully: I have it now with me and wish You would send it off immediatly by two of your Chiefs and I will give You who go a little Money, and will provide You with some Bread and Pork to support You on your Journey, and I will return and wait for the Answer of the six Nations at Albany, which I expect You will bring to me, and I will write to the Governor that he may be sure it will be safe delivered.

Brothers

Since we are now together, I will speak a few Words to You, and if I speak Truth I am sure You will listen to me, and if I do not speak Truth I do not want to be heard.

Brothers

You will remember that a few Years ago when some of our white People purchased Lands from the Oneida Nation, contrary to the good old Custom which was before, the Governor and our great Men the white People were much grieved at it, and the Governor soon after held a Treaty and bought the Lands the Oneidas chose to sell. You remember this was done in a fair open Manner in the Presence of the whole Oneida Nation, and they were honestly paid, and the young Men helped to mark the Trees, so that they knew what they sold, and if any of our People offered to come any farther than was agreed on, our Father the Governor would aſsist You to drive them off.

Brothers

When the Governor and great Men of the State buy Lands from You, there never happens any Disputes and every Busineſs that is done in the good old Way is plain and easy. Your Fathers and ours tried all Ways and liked that the best, and they have walked in that Path a long Time. But if disobedient Children from among us go into your Country, and take a Barrel or two of Rum, and call a Council, and if You are so unwise as to leave off hunting and hold Councils when such People call, and sell or lease your Lands to them, and if they do not pay You who will help You. And if they say You shall keep a Country to live in, and afterwards settle white People on it and drive You off, how can You expect Assistance from your Friends; or if they promise to pay You every Year a Sum of Money, and they will not do it, it will be very hard and You cannot complain to the Governor and our Chiefs, for You have brought the Trouble on Yourselves.

Brothers

If all the Money that You are to receive for your Country was divided among You it would not amount I believe to more than four Pence to each Person, and if You could not get your yearly Rent, to free Yourselves from further Troubles, having lost all your Friends by departing from the good old Rule, You would be obliged to sell your Papers which would bring You but a small Sum, and perhaps when that Money was divided it would not amount to more than one Shilling to each Person and so by acting wrong and forsaking the old Path in which your Forefathers walked safely, You would lose your Friends, and lose your Country.

Brothers

These things grieve your Friends very much, and all the white People (except a few disobedient Children) are very sorry for it. However it is not yet too late to make all things right; and if You attend at the Council Fire which will be lighted at Fort Schuyler the 10th Day of July next, your true and ancient Friends the Governor and Chiefs of the State will meet You there, and will brighten the Chain of Friendship, and will put You in the right Way and will support You in it.

Bothers

In the Governors Meſsage he requests that You will not let any white People settle on your Lands, I hope You will attend to his Advice.

Indians Answer.

Brother!

We have travelled a bad Road, and are very much tired. We are glad to see You here. You have told us good News. We hear the Governors Meſsage with great Joy, and we will tell it to all our Friends, and will deliver the Governor's Meſsage and Belt to the Seneca's, and if those You send the Meſsage by should take sick, we will send it by some safe Men. The Road is open to Fort Schuyler, and all the Nations will meet You there after the Corn is howed. We hope You will not fail to meet us there.

Brother!

You have told us the Truth and it

has made us very glad to hear our Friend speak to us, and we will not forget what You have said to us, and we hope to see You at Fort Schuyler with the Governor, and that we shal be put in the right Way. We will certainly meet You there, and listen to your good Advice.

Louis.
Schonondo.
Peter.
David.
Kayanderonqua

Thereupon Resolved that the Board deem it neceſsary that the Sum of one hundred Pounds be advanced to John Tayler Esquire for the Purpose of procuring Supplies and forwarding Meſsages and Dispatches to and from the six Nations of Indians and that the Governor draw his Warrant on the Treasurer for that Sum payable to Mr Tayler or his Order.
The Governor also laid before the Board a Copy of a Letter written by him to his Excellency Governo Hancock, together with his Answer thereto, which are in the Words following, to wit,

Sir,

At the Request of the Senate and Aſsembly of this State I do myself the Honor to transmit to Your Excellency the inclosed Papers.

These Communications sufficiently explain themselves and evince the Neceſsity of speedy and effectual Means, not only for the Preservation of the Public Right but to prevent the

Confusion and Disorder which will ensue, by permitting Individuals to acquire a Title in a Mode not recognized by Law.

We persuade ourselves your Legislature will be equally impreſsed as We are with the Importance of this Buſineſs and as our Interests in the Lands reciprocally ceded to each other, is inseparable, We have aſsured Ourselves of suitable Cooperation on the Part of your State in such Measures as the Exigencies may require.

It would have been most agreeable to Us previously to have conferred with the Commiſsioners to be appointed by your State as to the Time and Place of holding the Treaty: This however would have been attended with a Delay which might have proved very injurious; I have therefore already dispatched Meſsages to to the Indians inviting them to a Treaty at Fort Schuyler on the first Day of July next.

Governor Hancock's Answer.
Commonwealth of Maſsachusetts.
Council Chamber Boston April 5th. 1788.
Sir,

The polite Attention your Excellency has paid to this Commonwealth in your several Communications which I have had the Honor of receiving on the Subject of the Western Lands have been exceedingly pleasing to the Legislature and they have requested me to signify the same to Your Excellency and that they entertain a high Sense of the spirited and decisive Measures which the Hon^{ble}. Senate and Aſsembly of the State of

New York, have taken with Regard to the unwarrantable and unlawful Practices of John Livingston and others in obtaining Leases from the Indians of the Lands lately the Subject of a Compact between the two Governments, and that this Court unite with them in declaring the said Leases to be null and void. I have the Honor also of informing Your Excellency, that the embarrassed Situation of this Commonwealth has prevented their joining with Your State in the proposed Treaty with the Indians and induced them to comply with the Proposal of certain of their Citizens for purchasing the Right of Preemption, which was by the tenth Article of the Compact aforesaid ceded to this Commonwealth. I have the Honor to be with great Esteem Your Excellency's

most obedt. & very humble Servt.

His Excellency
George Clinton Esqr.

John Hancock

At a Meeting of the Commissioners at the House of Richard Varick in the City of New York the third Day of May 1788.

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

John Lawrence | Samuel Jones
Richard Varick | Egbert Benson.

The Governor laid before the Board a Letter from John Livingston to him covering certain Proposals to the Commissioners, which Letter and and Proposals are in the Words following

Sir,

I have taken the Liberty to inclose to Your Excellency the Propositions I promised. If Your Excellency and the Commissioners think them such as the State ought to accept of, I will do myself the Honor to attend at any Time and explain every Matter relative to the Business. I mean the second Proposition only to to be recommendatory according to the Resolution. I wish much to leave this Town on Sunday; the Nature of my Business is such that I must return immediately. Your Excellency will confer a particular Favor on me if You can make it convenient to call a Meeting tomorrow and decide the Matter. I am Your

Excellency's most obedt. Humble Servt.

Governor Clinton.
New York May 2nd. 1788.

Jno: Livingston.

Copy of Propositions.

Mr. John Livingston in Behalf of himself and his Associates proposes to the Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians, to obtain from the State of New York a Conveyance of all the Lands owned by the said Indians within the Claim of New York upon the following Terms, to wit

1st. The State to repay Mr. Livingston and his Associates the Consideration Money for which the

Indians executed the Lease together with all th Costs and Expences which attended the obtainin the said Lease and no Monies to be paid but such as appear from proper Vouchers to have been actually paid or secured to be paid by the said Livingston and his Aſsociates.

2nd. The State in Consideration of the Conveyanc to it, by the Indians, to grant of the said Lands one Million one hundred thousand Acres to the said John Livingston and his Aſsociates jointly, one Moiety of which Land so granted to be located as soon as poſsible in the Oneida Country and the other Moiety in the Scenakee, Cayuga or Onondago Country.

Mr. Livingston makes this Proposition in Behalf of himself and his Aſsociates in the fullest Confidence that if the Proposition be disapproved by the Commiſsioners it shall never be used directly or indirectly to the Prejudice of himself and his Aſsociates, or either of them, but shall in every Respect be considered as if the same had never been made.

Jno. Livingston.

The Board having taken the same into Consideration: Resolved the said Proposals are inadmiſsible and such as the Board are not authorized to accept of, and that a Letter be written to him to this Effect which being prepared was read and agreed to by the Board and is in the Words following.

Sir,

New York May 3d. 1788.

I have received Your Letter of Yesterday with the Proposals inclosed and have this Day laid them before the Commissioners in this City.

In Answer I am requested by the Board to inform You That your Propositions are of such a Nature that they do not conceive themselves authorized by Law to treat with You thereon, and if they had Authority for that Purpose, the Propositions would be considered by them as altogether inadmissible.

I am Sir Your obt. Servt.

John Livingston Esqr.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners at the House of his Excellency the Governor in the City of New York the twenty seventh Day of May 1788.

Present

His Excellency the Governor.
Richard Varick } Esqrs. Egbert Benson.
Samuel Jones and

The Governor laid before the Board two Letters from John Tayler Esquire to him of the 5th & 16th instant which are in the Words following,

Sir

The inclosed from Mr. Penet covering a Letter from Mr. Paroche (a Trader for Penet at Oneida) containing a Report from Coll. Louis and Ahonondo relative to Your Message to the six Nations was delivered to me last Night. The Translation is indifferent I shall therefore detain it. The Uneasiness prevailing among the six Nations arrises in a great Measure from the improper Procedure of Individuals towards them respecting their Lands. I have therefore Hopes that your Messaige, which reached them in a proper Time may have a good Effect, altho the Account appears to be alarming. Paroche has committed a Mistake in taking Louis and Schonondo's Speech to the Genesees. It is supposed that Louis meant to say that the Governor of New York was going to hold a great Council to confirm the Agreement made at Fort Stanwix. I shall send off this Morning for Louis and Schonondo to come to this Place and will forward any further Intelligence that I may obtain and will endeavour to execute any Directions, that You may think proper to send. Le Bon mentioned by Paroche is the Person who went with me to Fort Schuyler. I have drawn on the Treasury for one hundred Pounds. I have the Honor to be Your

Excellency's most obed^t. Serv^t.

Albany 5th May 1788.

John Taylor.

Governor Clinton.

Sir,

In my Letter to Your Excellency of the 5th instant I mentioned that I intended sending for Louis and Schonondo. Louis arrived this Evening and Schonondo being very sick sent an old Man named Lowrence to represent him. They confirm what was transmitted by Paroche from Oneida, and in Addition say that they have not the least Doubt but that the Senecas will attend the Treaty at Fort Schuyler. That the chief Man of that Nation with whom they conversed, told them they might rely on it. Mr John Livingston met Louis on the Road to Schenectady and informed him that he had Orders from the State of Maſsachusetts to take the Lease from the Indians, it therefore became neceſsary to explain the Nature of the Agreement between our State and Maſsachusetts, in which General Schuyler was so obliging as to aſsist me. They appeared to be perfectly satisfied and were of my Opinion that the Senecas if properly informed, would reject the Contract they had entered into with Livingston, until they had finished the Treaty at Fort Schuyler, as they positively aſserted that he was sent by the State. Louis has his Note for two hundred Pounds, as a Compensation for the Aſsistance he rendered in compleating the Purchase but declared that he aided him under an Impreſsion that he was sent by the State: A Meeting of the Oneidas will be called by Livingston, and Presents made them. Louis and Schonondo will so fully explain the Intentions of the State, as to frustrate any thing that he can do, and Mr Kirkland will have little Influence at Oneida. In one of his Sermons to them previous to the Grant of the long Lease he observed that his Thoughts were too extensive, their Country so large that he could not collect himself and urged the Propriety of selling a Part and then his Ideas would be more confined and he would preach better, they have discovered his Views and despise him I have advanced the Messenger fifteen Pounds six Shillings in Specie and sixteen Pounds in Goods. I have likewise sent a Boat laden with indian Corn to the Oneidas in the Name of the Governor: I have further promised to Louis a Reward when the Treaty will be held at Fort Schuyler and have engaged him to return here with the Messenger who is to come to Oneida from Buffaloe Creek and to render any other Assistance that will be required of him. Mr. Livingston and his Associates are determined to prevent a Treaty at Fort Schuyler and assert that they will certainly succeed. It therefore becomes necessary on the Part of the State to make use of every possible Means to counteract their Intentions. I should therefore wish to have the Directions of the Commissioners. A considerable Quantity of Goods is carried up by Mr. Livingston and upwards of one hundred Head of Cattle have lately gone through this City and Numbers of Persons who propose setling in that Country. Permit me to suggest that as as in all Probability great Numbers of Indians will attend the Treaty, the Supplies ought to be adequate and procured in Time I have the Honor to be Your Excellency's most obedt. humble Servt.

John Tayler.

Albany 16th May 1788.

Thereupon Resolved, that a Letter be written to Mr Tayler in Answer to his of the 16th which being prepared was read and agreed to by the Board and is in the Words following.

New York 27th May 1788.

Sir,

I have received your Letter of the 16th instant which I have communicated to Messrs Jones, Varick and Benson the Commissioners now in Town. We would advise that as soon as it is ascertained that the Indians will meet Us, and You can form some Estimate of the Numbers which probably will attend that You may make such Arrangements as You shall conceive most eligible for procuring the Provisions and Liquors to be dealt out to the Indians. The different Kinds of Provisions and the Quantity of each, we must submit to your Judgment, as we do also the Mode of procuring these Supplies, whether by Contract or otherwise. If a certain Proportion of Provisions were salted, it would probably be cheaper, and at the same Time more agreeable to the Indians, and we would also suggest to You that if the Flour can be procured in the Neighbourhood of the German Flatts, the Expence of Transportation will be saved. It will however be important that whatever Measures You take, or whatever Engagements You enter into, that they may be as certain as possible so that we may depend on having the Provisions from Time to Time as they may be wanted. In Addition to the Sum of £100 heretofore advanced to You, I have this Day given a Warrant on the Treasurer in your Favour for £500 which You will draw for as these Preparations and the other Occasions may require You will immediately transmit to me the Answers from the Indians as soon as You shall receive them, so that we may in Season give You such further Directions as shall appear neceſsary. I am &c

Geo Clinton.

Resolved also, that the Board deem it neceſsary that the Sum of five hundred Pounds be advanced to Mr. Taylor for the Purpose of procuring Supplies and Neceſsaries for holding a Treaty with the six Nations of Indians.

On the 4th of June the Governor received from Mr. Taylor a Letter of the 29th May which is in the Words following, to wit.

Albany 29th May 1788.

Sir

In my Letter to your Excellency of the 16th instant by Post, I mentioned the Arrival of Coll. Louis in this City and the Substance of the Information I had received from him and suggested the Propriety of making the neceſsary and adequate Provisions for holding the Treaty at Fort Schuyler and informed You of the Advances I made the Indians, to which I have received no Answer. I am of Opinion that Beef and Flour, particularly must be procured in this Quarter and Boats built for the Purpose of transporting the Stores and Provisions &ca I must therefore again entreat the Commissioners to forward their Instructions I am apprehensive that unless immediate Preparations are made it will be impossible to have the Stores up in Season. I would not wish to bee too urgent but fear too great Delays I have already expended the greater Part of the Sum I have drawn for and Money is a necessary Requisite. I have the Honor to be

Your Excellency's
most obedt. Servt.
John Tayler

P.S. I hope the Commissioners will be pointed in their Instructions.

Governor Clinton.

And it being impracticable to convene a sufficient Number of the Members in the City of New York to form a Board the Governor requested Mr. Varick to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Tayler's Letter and to form a Duplicate of the Governors last Letter to him and Mr. Varick accordingly wrote a Letter to Mr. Tayler in the Words following.

Sir

The preceding is Copy of a Letter transmitted to You by Post on the 28th inst. since which his Excellency the Governor has received Yours of the 29th the Receipt of which I am requested to announce to You. You will observe from the preceding Letter, that it is not the Intention of the Commissioners to circumscribe your Discretion by any particular Instructions on the Subject of your Agency: This they consider as unnecessary, having the fullest Confidence in your Judgment and Prudence. There is not a Board of Commissioners in Town. Arrangements will be made for further Supplies of Cash previous to the Governor's going to Poughkeepsie. As soon as You transmit positive Intelligence that the Indians will attend I am to write to L'Hommedieu and Floyd. You will be pleased to advise me whether one or more large Marquees can be procured at Albany for the Accommodation of the Commissioners and their Suite. If You cannot procure them I must try General Knox. The Count Moustiers and his Sister in Law, the Marchioness have expressed a strong Desire to attend the Treaty If they do, it will require some additional Provision on your Part. It may not be improper to hint to You that we rely wholy on You for Supplies of every Kind for the Commissioners &c; as You are to partake of the Ship's Fare, I doubt not but it will be good. I am in Haste and with Esteem Sir,

Your obed^t. Serv^t.

R. Varick

John Taylor Esq^r.

New York June 5^th 1788.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners at the House of Peter Tappen Esquire in Poughkeepsie in the County of Dutchess the sixteenth Day of June 1788.

Present.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.
John Lawrence } Egbert Benson.
Samuel Jones } . . . . . .

The Governor laid before the Board a Letter from John Taylor Esquire to him of the 8th instant which is in the Words following. 145/T

Sir

Yesterday Evening Lawrence an Oneida Sachem and three young Men delivered me the inclosed Letter under Cover directed to Your Excellency and five Strings of Wampum. They say they were brought to Oneida by three Cayugas who informed them that it contained an Answer to Your Excellency's Message. Concluding that by the Contents of this Letter my Conduct would be regulated as to procuring Supplies, I have taken the Liberty to open it. I have my Fears that a small Number of the six Nations except the Oneidas will attend the Council at Fort Schuyler. General Schuyler when the Indians delivered the Information contained in the inclosed Paper is of Opinion with me that it would be proper to postpone the Treaty untill some Time in September. as the Supplies the Indians have and will receive at the different Treaties will support them untill that Period and when they are wansted they will be more anxious to meet the Governor than they appear to be at present and the Time is too short to admit of their Return from Fort Pitt. They say that the Meeting at Buffaloe Creek was very numerous. That Brandt was gone to Quebec— They suppose Butler to have been present— That the Oneidas who attended have not returned but are silent as to the Result of the Meeting. I expect soon to hear what has been determined on and will immediately transmit it to You. They hold up an Idea in the Letter that they had promised Congreſs not to attend any Treaty but what should be called by their Authority. Would it not be proper for the State to send some Person to Fort Pitt. The Indians seem to think that we wish by all Means to deprive them of their Lands and complain that so many Attempts are made by Individuals for that Purpose who tell them that they are authorized by the State or Congreſs and lament that they have no Person to complain to. I informed Lawrence that the Aſsertions made by Livingston and Schuyler were not true; that their adhering to any improper Bargain entered into by a few of their worst Men with Livingston would reduce them to the Situation Schuyler mentioned; that the State would protect them from Injury and Insult, provided they followed the Advice that had been so often repeated to them not to sell their

Lands to Individuals but to treat with the Governor only and that the Governor would fully explain to them the good Intention of the State at the Treaty. Livingston and Jellis Fonda are returned – The others are gone on. They say that they were taken sick. The Speeches were delivered by Dean as Interpreter for Schuyler and Livingston. The Letter from Buffaloe Creek was written by Stephens Son to the British Interpreter at Niagara, who likewise resides there. Lawrence thinks the six Nations will not have time to attend the Treaty as early as the Commissioners propose. Should it be thought adviseable to alter the Time, a Message ought to be dispatched for that Purpose. Previous to the Arrival of the Indians, I sent Thornton to finish a Contract I had made at Canajoharie for 200 Barrels of Flour at 16/ pr C. Wt. and directed six Batteaux to be built; wrote to Mr White to have ready the Beef, who was to furnish it at 24/ pr C. Wt. & had engaged 40 Barrels of Pork and sent for a few Sheep. I shall direct the Building the Batteaux to go on slowly and shall stop the other Preparations as far as possible if the Commissioners think proper to direct it. I hope they will send their Instructions and that they may be as pointed as possible. I have given the Indians seven Pounds sixteen Shillings in Specie and about that Amount in Goods. I have the Honor to be

Your Excellency's most obedt.
humble Servt.

Albany 8th June 1788.

John Taylor

Account of Transactions of John Livingston Esq.^r and his Associates at Oneida, related by Lawrence and three young Men.

On the Arrival of M.^r Livingston at the Oriskany, he sent a Message to the Oneidas requesting them to meet him at Fort Schuyler: accordingly several of the Oneidas came there and proposed that they should go to their Castle, to which Livingston objected as it would occasion too great a Delay and consume too much Provision. They then agreed to meet at the Oneida Lake: accordingly the whole of the Castle young and old met them there when Peter Schuyler arose and having a paper in his Hand addressed the Oneidas as follows.

Brothers

The Governor will soon be at the Carrying Place to hold a great Council with You. I now tell You what he intends to do. He will bring a great Deal of Money with him and will try to buy your Land and if he cannot get You to sell he will endeavour to lease your Lands and promise to pay You some Time hence and after he has got it he will settle it and drive You off.

Brothers

I now warn You of his Intentions therefore take Care, You see how the

Stockbridge Indians are served. They have lost their Lands and are obliged to beat Sticks along the Rivers into Brooms, and You will be served just so Livingston then rose and repeated in Substance what was before told them by Schuyler. The Indians replied that they had no Business with him, and that he had better attend to his own Concerns, that they belonged to this State and were determined to meet the Governor at the Carrying Place. He then answered that he thought they were Men of their Words, and would stand to what they said; that they had agreed with them but somebody had been among them since he was there, and had told them to break the Agreement, therefore they were not Men of their Words.

Jacob Reed and a few of the drunken Men took some Presents, but none of the head Men would take anything, except a Pipe and Tobacco.

Buffaloe Creek 14th. May 1788.

Sir

We have had the Pleasure of seeing your Proclamation in which we are happy to find your Excellency and your State has considered the Lease which Mr. Livingston and his Friends has taken from some of our young Men, contrary to the Resolutions and Speech from the whole of the Sachems and Chiefs of the six Nations; the Purport of which was to cover up the Fire they had kindled at Conadasagoa until the Spring when we promised to attend. They told us they were sent

by the Congreſs otherwise we should not have taken the least Notice of their Meſsage, as we had already promised Congreſs not to attend any Council but what should be called by their Authority. We must therefore beg of You to prevent any of your People from settling on our Lands, as we look upon the Lease not to be in the least binding, since not one Sachem or principal Woman had given their Consent, nor will we receive their Money but keep our Lands. We are all preparing to go to the Council at Tuscaroras, and have desired Mr Livingston to meet us there, where we hope to settle all our Affairs according to promise and shall be ready to hear what he has to say. We shall then expect every Aſsistance from the Deputies from Congreſs to aſsist us in our Grievances at that Meeting. And we are much obliged to your Excellency for your obliging Speech & Attention to our Interest, and are with the greatest Respect Your Excellency's most
humble Servants.

Signed by a Number of Chiefs from the six Nations.

Thereupon Resolved that it is proper to postpone the Time of holding the Treaty and that a Meſsage be sent to the six Nations of Indians for that Purpose, the Draft of which Meſsage being prepared, was read and agreed to by the Board, and is in the Words following.

Sachems and Warriors of the six Nations!

Brothers!

We lately sent You a Message requesting You to meet us at a Treaty to be held at Fort Schuyler on the tenth Day of July next, and We have lately been informed that probably some of your People will be abroad, so that they will not be able to attend at that Time.

Brothers!

The Business of the Treaty is of the greatest Importance both to You and to Us and concerns all your Men, and all your Women and all your Children, and We could wish that all your People should be there and we have therefore postponed the Time for holding the Treaty until the first Day of September next.

Brothers!

We hope that all your People will come to the Treaty at Fort Schuyler, and be present when we brighten the Chain and renew the Covenant between You and Us.

Brothers!

We request You to send Us an Answer to to this Message as soon as You can so that We may know what to depend on. I am your Friend and

Brother

Poughkeepsie
June 16th 1788.

Geo: Clinton

Resolved also that a Letter be written to Mr. Tayler in Answer to his Letter of the 8th instant covering the Message to the six Nations, the Draft of which

Letter being prepared was read and agreed to by the Board and is in the Words following.

Sir

I have received your Letter of the 8th inst with its Inclosures which I have communicated to the other Commissioners, and We coincide with You in Opinion that it will be most adviseable to postpone the Time for holding the Treaty with the Indians and We have therefore sent You an additional Message to them for that Purpose and which You will forward with all possible Dispatch. We have left a Blank in the Message to be filled up with such Time as You shall judge most eligible but the Day not to be more distant than the 10th of September. The earlier the Treaty is held the better, but we also suppose it of Importance that as many of the Indians should attend as can probably at any Time be convened, and therefore in fixing the Time You will be governed by these Considerations.

As we have committed to You to ascertain the Time when the Treaty will be held, You will without any particular Instructions from Us, be able to regulate Yourself with Respect to the Preparations in procuring Provisions & Batteaux.

I am &c

John Tayler Esqr George Clinton.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners at the House of Peter Tappen in Poughkeepsie in the County of Dutchess the twelfth Day of July 1788

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Samuel Jones & Egbert Benson.

The Governor laid before the Commissioners three Letters from John Taylor Esquire to him, to wit one of the 17th ult. covering a Letter from Jacob Reed of the Oneida Nation, and one of the 2nd and another of the 6th inst. with certain Inclosures, which are in the Words following

Sir

This Day Coll. Louis a Son of Schenondo and a War Chief from Oneida arrived and delivered me the Particulars of what passed between Mr. Livingston and the Oneida Nation the Substance of which was forwarded with the Letter from Buffaloe Creek. They further add that the Senecas will not meet at Canadasago, altho Dean and Mc Kinstray are gone for the Purpose of inviting them to attend. Permit me to suggest that it will be proper to send a Message to the Senecas in Order to be informed when they will meet. Two Oneidas have agreed to go with any white Man that is sent to them for that Errand A Mr. Elliott has been sent to the Oneidas to press them to go to Canadasago, which they all refused, he is still there and probably may prevail with a few. General Schuyler will inform Your Excellency with any Particulars that has passed here.

I am Your Excellency's

most obed. Servt.

John Taylor.

Albany 17th June 1788.

N.B. Mr. Thornton who was at Oneida brought the inclosed Letter from Jacob Reed.

Dear Sir,

Oneida June 12th 1788.

I take this Opportunity to write these few

Lines informing Your Excellency that I am unwell but am little better than I have been this four Days. But hope by the divine Providence of God You are well. I likewise inform Your Excellency that I am sent to appear before the Treaty held at Canadasago by the Committee of Hudson, but am not able to go. Mr. Thornton is in this Place this Morning and informs me that You are going to make a Treaty at Fort Schuyler next Month. And I must likewise inform Your Excellency that the six Nations of Indians have been here and informed us that they are not to appear, not till the Treaty at Muskingum is over. Sir this is all I have to say at present. I am your most obedt.

and humble Servant

His Excellency
Governor Geo. Clinton.

Joe. Reed.

Albany 2nd July 1788.

Sir,

Immediately on Receipt of your Message to the six Nations I dispatched Captn. Thornton to them and fixed the first Day of September, I wrote the Oneidas to send two Indians with him and directed him to take a Mr. Wemple who was a Guide to Genl. Clinton's Army to that Country is well acquainted with the Seneca Language and lives on the Mohawk River.

I shall immediately on Thornton's Return make the necessary Arrangements and transmit to Your Excellency the Account he brings. I have

the Honor to be Your Excellency's
most obedt. Servant
Governor Clinton. John Tayler.

Sir

The several Inclosures were delivered to me last Night, they were sent to Mr. Penet[a] by his Clerk at Oneida. If the Indians may be credited the Result of the Treaty at Buffaloe Creek is fully explained. The Account corresponds with that heretofore transmitted. The Oneidas appear to be much in Want of Provision, and should the Commissioners think proper a Batteaux Load or more of Indian Corn could be sent them immediately. 153 V.

Permit me to observe that they appear to be disposed to render this State every Service in their Power, and perhaps some Attention to them would be necessary. I have the Honor to be

Your Excellency's most obedt.
Albany 6th. July 1788. Servant
Governor Clinton.
John Tayler.

Oneida 27th June 1788.

Intelligence which a Seneca Indian brought to Oneida to our Brother John Tayler to be communicated to the Governor.

There is an Indian who is come from the Council of the Genesee while Coll: Louis was with our Brother La Fleure at Schenectady. Butler has kindled a little Council Fire and assembled the Senecas. He said to the Senecas "My Brothers You have not the Bigness of a Foot of Land and if You will believe me and give a Piece of Land to the Sons of Johnson

I will be able to put a Stroke in your Power. You must absolutely grant to the Sons of Johnson this Land from four Miles of the Genesee to run to four Miles or a little farther than Canadesegue, and then You will see how I will arrange the Matter. It is an Indian who is come in Secret from that Council to give us this Intelligence and he is very certain that the Senecas have granted that Land and that if a white Man should go there from hence they would either arrest or kill him. And Butler said "My Brothers if the Bostonians should attack me, I will attack them, and if they take up the Hatchet I will do the same. My Brothers if they should attack me, so forceably that I cannot stand it, then I will take Your War Club to help me.

The following is what the Oneidas said to Mr Tayler.

Our Brother, try to talk of this to our Brother the Governor that he may give Information of it to the English Governor or to the English Ambassador.

The Chiefs of the Oneida think that the Senecas will not have provision for the Route. they think it will be proper to send two Batteaux of Provisions for them to Fort Stanwix against they come.

Directed to Peter Penet Esquire at Schenectady

Oneida 27th June 1788.

In the Names of of all the Village to
our Brother the Governor.

Our Brother!

We thank You for the Provisions You have given us for 'une journee" We have had pr. Head two Quarts and an half of 15 Barrels of Corn which we have received, but those who have been engaged in the Buſineſs have had a little more than us. Our Brother, We request of You to aſsist us if You can (as You have postponed the Council for two Months) with two Batteaux Loads of Corn, if not, when You come up You will find some of us dead of Hunger, for the Young Men cannot hunt because We constantly retain them for the Council, and Indian Corn boiled in Water is poor Stuff. this our Brother is what your Brothers request of You, and they all aſsure You of their profound Respect.

Peter Minister
Louis Cook
& John Schonondo in the
Name of the Village.

Letter which Mr. P. Penet will be so good as to have translated in to English and sent to the Governor.

Oneida 27th June 1788.

Sir,

I have received Your Letter of 23d. of this Month at Fort Hunter. On Tuesday Morning I called at Mr. Wimple's and he prepared himself immediately and We set out in the Afternoon.

We arrived at Oneida the 26th on Thursday Night, and I sent an Express to fetch Coll: Louis & Mr Perache to assemble the Chiefs. They have made Arrangements and sent with me the Chief who was below with me, and Coll. Louis and another of the Village. On Saturday Morning We shall set out for Nontague. When we arrive there, I shall summon the Chiefs and if anything should not turnout well, I shall write You Word immediately, and the other Indian (who is the other that is with me) shall be the Bearer. If the Chiefs are not at Canadesegue I shall take another Route back of it. Sir, he who has the Honor to be Your

very humble Servt

John Thornton

Captain Thornton made me write this in French for Fear that if he should write it himself in English it might fall into the Hands of some one who would open it, seeing it was directed to Mr Taylor and he desires Mr Penet to keep this Letter until he returns to Schenectady.

Perache.

There being but three Commissioners at Poughkeepsie and it being impracticable to procure a Meeting of a full Board, it was judged expedient that a Letter should be sent to Mr Taylor in Answer to his said Letter of the 6th inst. and a Letter was accordingly prepared and agreed to by the Commiſsioners present, which is in the Words following.

Dear Sir

The Governor has received your Letter of the 6th instant with its Inclosures. There being only three Commiſsioners here We cannot form a Board but being fully in Sentiment with You, We therefore advise that some indian Corn, and if You think proper other Neceſsaries, be immediately sent to the Oneidas. The Quantity We submit to Your Discretion. Immediately on the Governor's Return to New York a Quorum of the Commiſsioners will be convened, when the Papers will be communicated to them, and a formal Resolution entered to warrant this Expenditure.

Yours &c.

Poughkeepsie
July 12th 1788.

Egbt. Benson.

At a Meeting of the Commiſsioners at the House of John Simmons in the City of New York, on the third Day of August 1788.

Present
His Excellency Governor Clinton
Ezra L'Hommedieu } { Samuel Jones
Richard Varick } { Egbert Benson

The Governor laid before the Board a Letter from John Tayler Esquire to him of the 16th instant with certain Inclosures which are in the Words following

Sir

The inclosed Papers are just arrived from Schenectady. Mr. Penet received Thornton's Letter by Express. The Instruction that I have lately received will warrant my sending two Boats laden with Provision to Oneida, as the Indians propose to attend earlier than was intended Exertions to procure the Supplies will be necessary, and a farther Supply of Cash will be required. I shall write immediately on Thornton's Arrival. I am Your

Excellency's most obedt.

Servant.

Albany 16th July 9 OClock P.M. John Tayler

Governor Clinton.

Schenectady July 16th. 1788.

Dear Sir

The inclosed is a Letter which I received late last Night by an Express and which I send to You as the same. My Clerk at Oneida informs me that there are already some Indians on the Road for the Council, which will be held at Fort Harrison, and that the Oneida Indians demand Provision for to keep them alive when they come at Oneida. According as my Clerk informs me, it will be necessary to send up some Batteaux with Provision immediately, for fear that if the Indians (who will arrive at Oneida) find no Provision they will immediately return. While I have the Honor to be with Respect, Dear Sir, Your

most obedt. humble Servt.

John Tayler Esqr. J. P. Penet.

Canadasago July 5th 1788.

Dear Sir,

I have safe arrived at this Place where I had the good luck to find the most of the Oriondago and Seneca Tribe and immediately called a Council and delivered my Message without being discovered by Livingston's Company, till I had my Business completed. The Indians have agreed in Council to come to the Governor's Treaty as soon as they have finished their Business here, which will be much sooner than You expected as they are come from the most back Towns, and they mean to come to the Governor's Treaty before they return Home. There will be I expect as much as a thousand Indians from this Quarter that is Men Women and Children as far as I can find out by them. I am detained here a few Days for a few Chiefs that are to come from Buffaloe Creek which is Abeel and four or five more. Those Chiefs that are here expect it will be about the Middle of August when they can be at Fort Stanwix to treat there with the Governor. I must acquaint You that my Presence is very mortifying to this Company at this Place: they sometimes threatened to confine me and sometimes to send me off the Ground. But this works for the Good, as it has exasperated the Indians which have secured me Protection. I have found a Piece of Letter, which I transmit to You for your Perusal, which I suppose will give You an Idea of their Uneasiness. No more at present but I am Your's with Respect

John Thornton

Mr. John Taylor.

The Governor also laid before the Board a Letter from John Tayler without Date which is in the Words following:

Sir,

Captain Thornton arrived Yesterday from Kanadasago at which Place he delivered your Message to the Senecas and others of the six Nations who were convened there. They have directed him to inform the Governor that they will meet him at Fort Schuyler the 25th of August, and that at least four hundred of the Senecas and Many of the other Nations will attend. He further says that the Indians treated him with the utmost Civility, and when he was threatened and insulted, insured him their Protection. They have requested that a Boat Load of Provision may be sent to the Cayuga Ferry, in Order to enable the old Men to prosecute their Journey. He was ill used by Livingstons Party; they threatened to send him off the Ground, and insisted that no Person had a Right to spread Lies and sow Sedition among the Indians, and took every Means in their Power to insult him, and in all Probability he would have been much abused, was it not for the kind Reception and civil Treatment he received from the Indians. His Interpreter fearing that some drunken Savage might abuse him, left the Ground and returned Home. He mentions some kind Offers, also as it was hinted to him, that a Young Man might be very advantageously concerned with their Company; To which he replied that neither Abuse nor kind Offers should prevent him from executing the Business committed to his Trust. He further adds that Butler is to have two Rights to be conveyed to his half Sisters in New England for his Services, but cannot determine whether in the Massachusetts Right or in that of this State. Mr Kirkland arrived this Day and brought the inclosed Letter with a Belt from Joseph Brandt. He observes that as a Citizen of this State he conceives it to be his Duty to give You all the public Intelligence he possesses; That his being an Agent on the Part of the State of Massachusetts afforded him an Opportunity all the Transactions with the People of that State: that he was likewise present at many of the private Councils of the Indians, but does not chuse to disclose such Matters as he conceives to be secret: He says that the Indians at Buffaloe Creek, at which Place Brandt and Butler were, charged Livingston with improper Conduct. Brandt said the Lease was fraudulently obtained, and spoke very harshly of Mr Livingston in Presence of Gilbert and Benton; that after some Deliberation it was agreed by Mr Phelps to release to the Indians near two thirds of the Lands in the Massachusetts Cession, lying to the West of the Genesee River and retain the Residue paying therefor five thousand Dollars, twelve Head of Cattle this Fall, and two hundred Pounds annually forever; the one half in Cattle the other Cash. Mr Kirkland further adds that he and Butler witnessed a new Lease executed by the Indians to Livingston for the Indians Right

Eastward of the Maſsachusetts Claim except the Territory of the Oneidas, but does not know its Stipulations (as he says) a Copy of which Lease is in Butlers Poſseſsion. The Indians - The Savages are much divided in Sentiment. Whig and Tory still prevails. The Whig Party adheres to the State. Mr. Kirkland has declared he will have no further Connection with Livingston - He disapproves of the Principles they are going on, as he terms it, and condemns their Conduct exceedingly, and has offered me his Services if the State chuses to employ him. He returns to the Westward from N. England a fortnight hence. Mr. Lawrence is in Sentiment with me that he may be of Use to the State. An Inhabitant in the Genesee Country named Allen offered his Services to Thornton. If the Commiſsioners thought proper he would come with the Indians. I shall prepare a Boat for Cayuga by the 9th of August, & could wish to have the Approbation of Your Excellency on this Subject. I have the Honor to be Your

Excellency's most obedt.

Servt.

Govr. Clinton.

John Taylor

N.B. a farther Supply of Cash is absolutely neceſsary, and ought to be sent up immediately. I shall retain the Belt sent by Brandt and some Strings of Wampum sent by Thornton.

The Governor also laid before the Board a Letter from Joseph Brant dated at Buffaloe Creek the 9th of July inst. and returning the Bill of Invitation to the Commissioners which Letter is in the Words following.

Buffaloe Creek July 9th 1788.

Brother attend!

Since We wrote You about two Months ago respecting the Lease which Mr. Livingston had obtained of our Lands, We have held a great Council with our Brothers from Boston at which all the Chiefs and principal Warriors of the six Nations attended. At this great Meeting We have sold Part of our Country to our Brothers from Massachusetts in the Presence of our Brother Coll. Butler and have also fully settled and adjusted all our other Land Affairs and after a tedious Attention to the Business of the last Fall transacted between Mr. Livingston and some of our Nations at Canadasago. We have all concluded to permit those People to settle in our Country, and as it is agreeable to Us We hope their Settlement on our Lands will meet with your Encouragement and Approbation. This we have done to bring about a general Union among all the five Nations.

Brother

You sent Us an Invitation to meet You at Fort Schuyler, which Bell We return. We are unable to meet You at the Place You propose this Year as Business of the utmost

Importance to the Indian Nations calls our immediate Attendance on the Treaty now held on the Ohio River for which Place We are now setting out. Brother, this is all We have to say.

His Excellency
Governor Clinton.

Jos: Brant.
in Behalf of the
five Nations.

P.S. We shall appoint an Agent by the next Fall and give him Power to see our annual Rents paid justly and hope You will establish him in that Office.

169 W Resolved, that from the Information contained in the several Letters received from John Taylor Esquire and the several Inclosures contained therein it is probable that some of the Indian Nations will attend at Fort Schuyler to hold a Treaty with the Commissioners agreeable to their Invitation, and that therefore it is the Duty of the Commissioners to prepare and set out on the eleventh instant, or as soon thereafter as a suitable Conveyance can be procured by Water from this City to the City of Albany and from thence to Fort Schuyler (the Information contained in Joseph Brandt's Letter to the Contrary notwithstanding)

Resolved also that Mr. L'Hommedieu be desired to write a Letter to Mr. Floyd requesting his Attendance in this City in Order to proceed with the other Commissioners to attend the proposed Treaty.

Resolved also that the Board do approve of the Directions given to Mr. Tayler in the Letter of the 12th of July last.

Resolved also that the Board deem it proper that the further Sum of six hundred Pounds be advanced to John Tayler Esquire for the Purposes of procuring Supplies and Necessaries for holding the said Treaty.

Resolved further, that a Letter be written to Mr. John Tayler in Answer to his last mentioned Letter, which was accordingly prepared, read & agreed to by the Board, and is in the Words following:

"New York, August 3d. 1788.

Sir,

I have received your last Letter without Date, informing me of the Return of Captn. Thornton, and communicated it to the Commissioners and by their Advice I have granted a Warrant in your Favor for the Sum of six hundred Pounds which is now deposited in the Treasury and for which You may draw on the Treasurer immediately. We shall set out for Albany in the Course of a Fortnight at farthest, and it is the Direction of the Board that in the mean Time You proceed (except as to procuring Articles for Presents to the Indians) to make every other Preparation for the Treaty and this Business We must commit wholly to your Judgment. The Letter which Mr.

Kirkland delivered to You was from Joseph Brandt, of which We send You a Copy for your Information. From this Letter it would seem as if Brandt & the Indians who were with him at Buffaloe Creek will go to Muskingum and consequently not attend our Treaty. This Circumstance has so far embarraſsed Us as not to put it in our Power to direct You respecting the Extent of Provisions to be procured. Captn. Thornton poſsibly may explain this Matter to You so as to enable You to form some Estimate of the Number of Indians who will attend and agreeable to which You will regulate Yourself as to the Quantity of Supplies.

At a Meeting of the Commiſsioners
at the House of John Simmons
in the City of New York on the
twelfth Day of August 1788.

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton.
William Floyd | Richard Varick
Ezra L'Hommedieu | Samuel Jones &
John Lawrance | Egbert Benson.

Resolved, that the Commiſsioners will prepare and set out by Water for the City of Albany on Thursday the 14th. instant.

Resolved also that Mr. Varick be requested to engage a Sloop for the Paſsage and Accom=

dation of the Commissioners and that he provide Supplies for them from this Place to the City of Albany.

Resolved further that it will be proper that the Commissioners take with them the Sum of five thousand to wit, two thousand Pounds thereof in Specie and the Residue in Paper Money for the Purpose of making Purchases from the Indians of their Lands and for discharging the contingent Expences of holding the Treaty with the six Nations of Indians and that his Excellency the Governor draw that Sum from the Treasury of this State by Warrant payable to Richard Varick one of the Commissioners.

The Board being advised that only about 1000 Dollars of Specie could be obtained from the Treasury, Resolved that Mr Varick be requested to procure the Sum of sixteen hundred Pounds, and if the same can not be otherwise procured in Season that he be requested to negociate a Loan of that Sum at the Bank. On the next Day Mr Varick reported to the Board that not being able to procure the Sum in Specie which he was directed to obtain otherwise than from the Bank, he had accordingly negociated a Loan thereof at the Bank and for securing the Repayment thereof with the Interest in kind, he had deposited the Sum of £1760 in Paper with the Cashier.

Resolved that the Board approve of this Transaction.

On the 14th instant His Excellency the Governor

Mr. Floyd Mr. L'Hommedieu Mr. Varick, Mr. Jones and Mr. Benson embarked on Board of the Sloop of John Van Woert for the City of Albany and arrived at that Place on the 19th of August.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners at the House of John Tayler Esquire in the City of Albany on Wednesday the twentieth Day of August 1788.

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton.
William Floyd
Ezra L'Hommedieu
Richard Varick
Samuel Jones
&
Egbert Benson.

The excessive Rains having rendered the Roads impassable for Carriages and the Mohawk River for Boats for the Transportation of the Commissioners, their Baggage and Stores, it is the Opinion of the Board that it would be inexpedient to set out for Fort Schuyler before Saturday the 23d instant they thereupon directed Mr. Tayler to provide Carriages for the Conveyance of the Commissioners and their Baggage so as to be ready to proceed on that Day.

His Excellency the Count Moustiers Minister Plenipotentiary of his most Christian Majesty to the United States of America having determined to accompany the Commissioners from the City of New York with a View of attending the Treaty with the Indians Resolved also that Mr. Tayler be directed to take immediate Measures for the Accomodation and Conveyance of him and his Suite and their Baggage.

On the 23d. day of August Peter Gansevoort Junr. having joined the Commissioners, they set out from Albany and proceeded to Maibee's Six Miles beyond Schenectady.

On the 24th. the Commissioners continued their Journey and at the House of Colonel Veeder at Caghnewaga they were met by a Seneca Warrior who said he was sent by some of his Nation to obtain Information respecting the intended Treaty. It having been represented to them by a Number of white People at Kanadasegoa that no Treaty was intended to be holden. Whereupon the Commissioners resolved that a Letter be immediately written to the Sachems and Warriors of the six Nations, requesting their immediate Attendance at Fort Schuyler and that the Seneca Warrior be desired to return therewith without delay.

Resolved also that Mr. Tayler be directed to provide the Seneca Warrior with Provisions and to advance to him some Money to compensate him for his Trouble and that Coll: Louis (who met the Governor at Lewis Groots in the Morning) be requested to accompany him to Oneida, in Order to facilitate his Journey to the Seneca Country.

A Message was accordingly prepared

which was agreed to by the Board and is in the Words following.

To the Sachems and Warriors of the six Nations.

I and the other Commissioners are now at Caghnawaga on the Way to Fort Schuyler to attend the Treaty agreeable to my last Message to You. I shall be at Fort Schuyler in about four Days from the Date of this Message, and I again repeat the Invitation to all your People to come.

The other public Business of the State will not permit me to remain long from Home and it will therefore be necessary for such of your People as propose to be at the Treaty to come on with all possible Haste or they may be too late.

August 24th. 1788.

The Commissioners then proceeded to Maibee's. On the 25th they lodged at the House of the Widow of George Herkimer and on the 26th at the House of Mr. Franks at the German Flatts.

On the 27th they set out from Mr. Franks and arrived at Fort Schuyler on the 28th where they found the Onondago Nation who had arrived some Days before.

On Fryday the 29th the Oneida Nation with the Tuscarora and other dependant Tribes also arrived. On the same day the

Onondagoes and Oneidas expressed a Desire of meeting the Commissioners formally to congratulate them on their Arrival, and as the Onondagoes were first on the Ground they insisted upon having the first Audience which was acquiesced in by the Oneidas, and the Commissioners accordingly met.

Present –

His Excellency the Governor,
William Floyd } Samuel Jones
Ezra L'Hommedieu } Egbert Benson &
Richard Varick } Peter Gansevoort Junr.

The Onondago Nation attending and the Company being seated Tehonwaghsloweaghte alias Black Cap, arose and addressed the Governor and Commissioners in a short Speech in which he congratulated the Commissioners on their safe Arrival at that Place after a long and tedious Journey and expressed in warm Terms the Happiness they experienced at the present Meeting and offered in a very fervent Manner, Thanks to the Great Spirit for his Protection on the respective Journeys of both Parties to that Council Fire.

He then agreeable to what he said was their ancient Custom, delivered to the Governor a Copy of his Invitation with a String of White Wampum, as an Evidence of their being prepared to proceed on the Business of the Treaty but mentioned at the same Time that as Onaghsetegoa one of their Chief Warriors was dispatched by them to invite their Cayuga and

Seneca Brethren to attend they would wish to defer entering into any formal Negociations until his Return.

This Speech was answered by the Governor by a Return of Congratulations and a concise Explanation of the Reasons for kindling the Council Fire at this Time and he observed that as the Business to be transacted was of the greatest Importance as well to the Onondagoes and their Posterity as to the Peace and Happiness of this State it would be necessary to have mutual Confidence in each other, and to convene frequently and confer freely together, so that We may understand each other well and bring Matters to a satisfactory Conclusion.

The Governor before he closed informed them that the Commissioners readily acquiesced in their Proposal of deferring any formal Negotiations until the Return of Oneayhselegon their Chief Warrior.

And then the usual Ceremonies being performed the Onondagoes retired and the Oneida Nation and their Dependants attended, who being seated Agwelentonwas alias good Peter delivered to the Commissioners an elegant congratulatory Speech in which after expressing the Attachment to the State and their American Brethren in general, and the Happiness they experienced in meeting the Governor and Commissioners at this Time he complimented the Council Ministers by expressing the great Satisfaction they had in seeing at that Place, the Representative of a Monarch for whom they had so warm a Friendship.

After closing the congratulatory Address, he observed to the Commissioners, that as the other Nations were not yet come in, if it was agreeable to the Commissioners they would return to their Village, and attend to their private Concerns for a few Days, and attend again when they should receive Notice for that Purpose from the Commissioners; and at the same Time requested that they might have a Supply of Provisions, and a Staff (alias some white Rum,) to assist them on their Journey.

The Governor then in Behalf of the Commissioners returned Congratulations on the Meeting and briefly explained to them the Reasons which induced the Legislature to direct the kindling of a Council Fire at this Time; in the Course of which he reminded them of the two former Treaties, and the wholsome Advice which had thereat been given to them, with Respect to their Lands, and observed that notwithstanding this they had again listened to the wicked Report of the Birds, which had led both them and their white Brethren into Difficulties, which it now required our joint Wisdom to remove, and that it would therefore be necessary that We should frequently meet and confer together, so that We might understand each other, for that if the Wings of these little Birds were not clipped they would pick out their Eyes.

The Governor then congratulated them upon the Return from France of Peter Otsiquette (a) one of their Children, and informed them that his Conduct had merited the Approbation of their Friend the Marquis de la Fayette, that by his Absence he had acquired Knowledge which it was hoped would render him useful to his Nation, and therefore recommended him to their Attention.

After the usual Ceremonies of drinking and smoking together, were ended the Governor covered up the Council Fire for that Time and the Company retired.

Saturday the 30th of August and Monday the first of September were employed in providing Accommodations, and in making the necessary Arrangements for conducting the Business of the Treaty.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners at the House of Seth Kenney (b) at Fort Schuyler, on Monday the 2nd Day of September 1788.

Present
His Excellency the Governor
William Floyd } { Samuel Jones
Ezra L'Hommedieu } { &
Richard Varick } { Egbert Benson.

The Board being informed that John Livingston accompanied by John C.

Schuyler Esq.r had arrived at this Place and there being Reason to apprehend that they would attempt to interfere with the Negotiations of the Commiſsioners and frustrate the Views of the State;

iſsue to them to depart from this place, and a notification &c &c.

Resolved therefore that Notifications to them respectively, in the Words following were accordingly prepared and served upon them by Mr. Abraham Bloodgood.

State of New York to wit.

By his Excellency George Clinton Governor of the State of New=York &c. &c. and William Floyd, Ezra L'Hommedieu Richard Varick, Samuel Jones and Egbert Benson Commiſsioners appointed to hold Treaties with the Indians within the said State.

To Mr. John Livingston of the Manor of Living=ston.

By Virtue of the Authority for that Purpose granted to Us by a Law of the said State entitled "An Act for appointing Commiſsioners to hold Treaties with the Indians within this State" Paſsed the first Day of March last We do hereby require You within three Hours after You shall have been served herewith, to depart from Fort Stanwix, being the Place where a Treaty is now in holding by Us with certain Indians residing within the said State, and to retire to the Distance of forty

Miles from the said Place.

Given under our Hands at
Fort Schuyler aforesaid this
2nd Day of September 1788.

The Commissioners then took into Consideration the Propriety of summoning Witnesses and taking Depositions touching Leases or Purchases said to to have been made by John Livingston, Caleb Benton Ezekiel Gilbert and others and being informed that James Dean and Samuel Kirkland were privy to these Transactions

Resolved that they be immediately summoned to attend this Board to give Testimony and Summons were accordingly prepared and served upon them respectively, a Copy whereof is in the Words following.

State of New York ss: By his Excellency George Clinton Governor of the State of New York &c. &c. and William Floyd, Ezra L'Hommedieu, Samuel Jones Richard Varick & Egbert Benson Commissioners appointed to hold Treaties with the Indians within the said State

To

These are in the Name of the People of the said State to require You to appear forthwith before us at the Dwelling

House of Seth Kenney's near Fort Schuyler formerly Fort Stanwix in the County of Montgomery, to give Evidence according to your Knowledge touching all Leases or other Purchases of or Contracts for the Sale of Land obtained or made without the Authority or Consent of the Legislature of this State, from or with any Indians residing within this State by or to any Person or Persons and hereof fail not on Pain of one hundred Pounds. Given under our Hands this second Day of September in the Year one thousand seven hundred and eighty eight

Mr James Dean } Sept. 2.
Mr Samuel Kirkland } Sept. 2.
Mr Hezh. Olcott Sept. 4th
Mr Hezh. Chapman Sept. 13th

On the third inst. the Governor being at Canada Creek received the following Information from Onyegat of Genesee, which he communicates to the Board.

A Speech of Onyegat of Genesee to Governor Clinton delivered at Wood Creek Sept. 3d. 1788.

Brother attend!
I come from Genesee where I live but last from Kanadasegea which is now six Days ago. Before I left, Genesee the Seneca Chief called Big Tree, received an invitation Belt from the Governor of New York calling him and the Tribe to a Treaty at Fort Stanwix upon which he desired me to accompany him through the several Villages on that River to communicate the Import of the Belt and prepare them for a March to Fort Stanwix. When we had accomplished this and were just ready to sling our

Rocks a small Company arrived from Kanadasegea of two white Men and two Indians. The Chief among them was called Coll: Mc Kinstray; he inquired of us concerning the Meſsage We had received from the Governor of New York: upon our Answer and declaring our Intention of meeting him at the Place appointed for his Treaty, He hung his Head down and appeared disconcerted. We understood by the Indians with him that he was bound to Niagara. He soon went out of the House and as we observed was writing a Letter and presently dispatched an Indian with the Letter to Kanadasegea with Orders to travel the whole Night. The next Day towards Night came two Meſsengers from Kanadasegea, the one a white Man who resides among the Onondagoes and a Seneca with three Strings & a Letter: This they opened and delivered to the Big Tree and others. It's Contents here follow.

Now Brother attend,

Brothers. We hear that You have received a Speech from the Governor of New York or Congreſs to hold a Treaty at Fort Stanwix. We are surprised at this. We will open your Ears that You may hear distinctly and unclose your Eyes that You may see clearly.

The Governor's Busineſs at his proposed Treaty is to purchase your Lands, but You have leased them to Us. He means to pay You all at once for them and then in a few Years to drive You off and tell You that You have no Property here. But We mean to pay You a great Sum the next Spring and then pay a certain Sum annually forever that your Children may have something to live upon.

Brothers!

Do not listen to him, he has Warriors, and so have We: if he comes here we will fight it out with him. We know You are distreſsed for Provisions, till your Corn becomes fit to eat, we will grant You Supplies. Repair to Kanadasegea and You shall have some immediate Relief."

We accordingly came to Kanadasegea and drew Provisions. Soon after our Arrival there, came the Cayuga Chief called Tigacayon. He also in Conjunction with the Chief Men at Kanadasegea called Dr. Benton diſsuaded Us from coming down, arguing that Congreſs had called a Treaty at the Muskingum & now to be called another Way would not be safe for them. But on my hearing that my old Friend Mr. Wemple was at the Mouth of the Cayuga Lake with Provisions to aſsist us on our Way down, I was determined to see the Governor at all Adventures, accordingly set out, whether the Indians in general will follow me is uncertain.

Onyigat
Head Warrior at Genesee.

On the 4th of September Tehonwaghsloweaghte alias Black Cap and Kahiktoton (the two Onondagas

Chiefs) and two Chief Warriors attended at the Commissioners Quarters and having intimated that they came agreeable to Invitation to converse with the Commissioners confidentially respecting the Business of the Treaty, the Governor addressed them as follows.

Brothers!

As it is my Intention at this Council Fire to consult our mutual Interest it is necessary that we should open our Minds to each other freely that We may be able to determine what is best to be done.

You are sensible that the State has never wished to take your Lands from You. When the War was over We immediately kindled up a Council Fire at this Place to renew the ancient Covenant and brighten the Chain of Friendship which had subsisted between our Forefathers and between You and Us. We then cleansed it of the Rust it had contracted during the War. At that Time I told You that We did not covet any of your Lands but if at any Time You wanted to dispose of any Part of them it was to be done according to the ancient Custom in the Presence of the Governor who would always take Care to see that the Lands were properly described and You honestly paid for them.

It gave me great Pain to hear last Year that some of our young Men had of their own Accord and without our Consent gone into your Country and purchased

Your Lands of You contrary to the old and wholsome Rule established between Us. It was wrong of You to receive those Men among You & to make Bargains with them. They are disobedient Children who have violated the Laws made by their Fathers and will defraud You of all your Lands, unleſs some Means be devised to prevent it. When I was informed of the Conduct of those disorderly Men, our Chief Men who were convened at Poughkeepsie were much offended at it, and then directed me to kindle up the Council Fire and to concert with You the proper Means to prevent the Mischief. It gave me great Pain to observe that while We were sending Meſsages, and inviting You to meet us here upon Busineſs which so nearly concerned Your Interest, some of your Brethren were encouraging our Young Men and sitting in Council with them at Buffaloe Creek. I have Orders from our great Council to punish these Men for their Disobedience to our Laws; And You have been Witneſses that I have sent one of them from this Place. It is eſsentially neceſsary that We should consult together and determine what is best to be done to correct the Evils which have taken Place among You, and prevent the like in future. Some of my Brethren who are here with me have already had some Conversation with You on this Subject, they informed You that Mr Livingston and his Aſsociates had obtained a Lease for all your Lands and that the Indians who had aſsembled at Buffaloe Creek last Summer had signed it. Reflect a Moment. Is it reasonable to expect that Men who will cheat their Fathers and disobey their Orders will pay You honestly for your Lands? It is a Bargain made without the Consent of the State and contrary to its Laws and our ancient Custom. They have promised You Money and a yearly Rent. If they refuse to pay You, how are You to compel them to it. It is not reasonable to expect that the State will interfere in your Behalf in a Busineſs conducted against their Will: those People will settle upon your Lands, they will soon become too strong for You, and if You should go to War with them, their Scalps will neither cloath nor feed You. It might involve both You and Us in great Difficulties and Trouble. You will easily perceive therefore the Neceſsity that effectual Measures be concerted to prevent it and it was for this Purpose that We invited You to this Council Fire. Open your Minds to us then freely. Tell us what You think is best to be done. We will do the like to You and by explaining our Minds to, and reposing Confidence in each other, We may be able to adopt the best Measures to correct the Evils, in which We are involved.

Black Cap then arose and answered as follows:

Brother!

I am very happy to meet the Governor this Day and to hear him expreſs such favorable Sentiments; You may rest assured that We are disposed to do every thing that You can wish. We had also an Invitation to meet Your disorderly Young Men at Kanadasegea, but We refused to go, and determined to attend at the Council Fire which You had kindled, and to finish the Business here. We are fully authorized to do it. If You are willing to take a Lease of our Lands We are willing to give You one. If not We are ready to enter into such other Agreement as You shall propose, as best calculated to promote our Interest. Matters were not conducted properly at Kanadasegea, and We determined to come here and set Things right.

The Governor then mentioned to them that as the War had for a Time interrupted the friendly Intercourse between Us and them, and might have introduced some Changes in the Manner of transacting their Affairs, he therefore requested them to inform him whether the Onondagoes were so represented as to be able to transact Business at this Council in a satisfactory Manner and so as to prevent all Disputes upon that Subject with the Nation. To which the Black Cap replied as follows: This is an important Question. We will consult our People upon it in Council and will tomorrow give our Brother the Governor an Answer.

The Governor then observed that he would from Time to Time consult with their Chiefs upon what was proper to be done. That there were wicked People employed to induce their People to go home and prevent Us from doing Buſineſs with them, and that We must unite our Endeavours to prevent their wicked Designs. That Mr Livingston and his Aſsociates had their Emiſsaries at Kanadasegea and all about the Country, spreading Misrepresentations to answer their own wicked Purposes, and who were were daring enough even to aſsert that they were acting under the Authority of the State.

On the same Day Mr James Dean attended agreeable to Summons and was examined and his Deposition taken and sworn to before all the Commiſsioners except Mr Gansevoort who left this Place on Monday last on a Jaunt to Oswego. On the same Day a Summons in the Form above mentioned was iſsued and served on Hezekiah Olcott a Trader residing at the Oneida Village.

On the 5th of September Mr David I. Schuyler attended the Commiſsioners and his Deposition was taken touching a Bribe offered him by John Livingston to procure his Influence to induce the Onondago Indians to return home and not sell their Lands to the Commiſsioners.

On the 6th of September Mr Hezekiah Olcott attended agreeable to Summons & was examined by & his Deposition was taken and sworn to before the Commiſsioners.

On the 7th of September the Commiſsioners received the following Information from a Seneca Young Warrior.

That when the Meſsenger Onaghsategea the Onondago, arrived at Kanadasegea 5 Days ago there were then 5 Chiefs, one the Principal Man from Buffaloe Creek, there: That they had consulted about attending the Treaty here and had determined to look out for a Meſsenger to notify their Intention, but on the Arrival of Onaghsategea they conceived it unneceſsary; That he got drunk and did not return so soon as they expected, On which they charged this Informant with their Meſsage, which is, that they have sent out for some young Warriors, and when they arrive they will attend. He believes the Onondago Meſsenger is on the Road back now. He is charged with a private Meſsage from Rosekrantz, to wit, That he had received the Letter directed to him and that he would be down soon: But if any Thing should happen to prevent it he will give Notice of it by some particular Indian; That the Cayuga Chief Tegueayon (or the Fence) the principal Man and only one at Kanadasegea, is sick and at the Point of Death. This Chief (as he mentioned in a Speech) came to see the Lands about Cayuga Salt Springs surveyed, accompanied by one Dockstader, was brought out of the Woods sick, and speechleſs; That the Chiefs that employed this Meſsenger, said they were now extremely glad that they had heard directly from the Governor for everything before had been misrepresented and perverted; That the Farmer a principal Seneca Chief would attend; That the Runner to call in the young Warriors were to go to Buffaloe Creek and to be but two Nights absent.

On the 8th of September the Commiſsioners received the following Information from an Oneida Warrior who resides at Genesee.

The Informant saith that on the Arrival of Wemps Son at Kanadasegea the Chiefs were aſsembled; That many were glad to see him and expreſsed an earnest Desire to know his Busineſs; That not understanding the Indian Language he began to relate his Meſsage in English; That Doctor Benton thereupon procured a Person whom the Indians call Jack, and whose Name is supposed to be John Bell, being the only Interpreter there now in the Service of the New York Genesee Company to interpret to the Indians the Meſsage from the Governor brought by young Wemp and as the Informant understood from some White People then at Kanadasegea and who understood the Indian Language, the said Jack had misinterpreted the Governor's Meſsage, And had informed the Indians that the Meſsage purported Nothing more than that Wemp's Father was at the Outlet of the

Cayuga Lake with some Provisions for them, but was about to return having given up all Expectations of meeting the Indians there; and the Informant saith that it was supposed that Doctor Benton had directed such Misinterpretation; and the Informant further saith that Doctor Benton then informed the Indians that he had sent some Persons and among others the said Jack at or to near the Place where the Treaty with the Governor was intended to be held, and that there were no Provisions or Preparations there for the Treaty, neither could they hear there any News about the intended Treaty with the Governor; That the said Jack then spoke to the Indians and confirmed what the Doctor had said, and further observed that the Governor had given up all Hopes of the Indians coming to the Treaty & therefore had staid at home. And the Informant further saith, that when the Indians thereupon complained that they were in Want of Provisions, Doctor Benton told them that if they would remain at Kanadasegea, and adhere to their Word and Bargain with him he would give them Provisions, but if the went to the Treaty or in Quest of the Treaty with the Governor then he would not furnish them with any Provisions; that the Chiefs thereupon seemed to consent to remain at Kanadasegea, but that some of the Warriors notwithstanding declared their Determination to come to the Treaty with the Governor, and observed that the Chiefs would not conduct in this Manner if some Money had not been slipped into their Pouches. And the Informant further saith that neither Mr Reed or Mr Ryckman were at this Meeting of the Indians with Doctor Benton at Kanadasegea and that before the Indians separated Dr Benton spoke to them respecting Mr Reed and Mr Ryckman's settling on their Lands and gave both Reed and Ryckman very bad Characters to the Indians and desired the Indians to send for them and they the Indians would hear him speak strong, or threaten Reed & Ryckman. That when the Indians refused to send for Reed or Ryckman Doctor Benton then requested the Indians to drive them from off the Lands; that previous to the Request to send for Reed & Ryckman Dr Benton requested the Indians to inform him of what Reed and Ryckman had from Time to Time told them, and that upon the Indians refusing to give him such Information he made the above Request to the Indians to send for Reed and Ryckman. That this took Place about 13 Days since, and from that Time to the Arrival of Oraghsetegea the Onondago who was sent by the Governor from Caghnawaga the Chiefs and other Indians were almost constantly in a State of Intoxication with Liquor given to them by Benton. That the Meſsenger sent by the Onondagoes on his Arrival at Kanadasegea convened the Chiefs and Warriors (only one White Man, the Son of the Revd Mr

Rosekrantz being present) and delivered to them the Governor's Meſsage and thereupon Mr. Rosekrantz also communicated to the Indians the Contents of a Letter which he had also received to the same Purport with the Governors Meſsage.

That then the Seneca Indian who had met the Governor at Caghnawaga also informed the Indians that he had actually seen the Governor on his Way at Fort Schuyler.

That upon this the Chiefs returned their Thanks and said they had now their Eyes open, and could see where to go, and determined to come down: That some of them requested the Informant to wait for them and they would accompany him That he waited a Day but Liquor was again furnished them very plentifully, but by whom he knows not, and the Informant came off.

That the Meſsengers from the Governor and from the Onondagoes arrived at Kanadasegea about six Days ago. That there were then at that Place 5 Chiefs, one of them the Principal Man from Buffaloe Creek, when the Council last above mentioned was held.

That the Onondago Meſsenger having got drunk and the Chiefs being put to Difficulty to procure a proper Person to send their Meſsage, and understanding that the Informant was ready to set off for Fort Schuyler, They charged him with their Meſsage to the Governor, which is as follows.

"That they have sent out for some Young Warriors and when they arrive they the Chiefs will attend the Governor's Treaty."

He believes the Onondado Meſsenger is now on the Road back. He is charged with a private Meſsage from Rosekrantz to wit, That he had received the Letter directed to him, that he will be down soon, if any thing should happen to prevent it he will give Notice of it by some particular Indians.

That the Cayuga Chief (Tegacayon or the Fence or Protection) the Principal Man and the only one at Kanadasegea is sick and at the Point of Death. That this Chief came to see the Lands about Cayuga Salt Springs, surveyed, accompanied by one Dochsteder, (as he mentioned in a Speech) He was brought out of the Woods sick and speechleſs.

That the Chiefs who charged the Informant with this Meſsage, were now extremely glad that they had heard directly from the Governor, for every thing before had been misrepresented and perverted

The Farmer a principal Seneca Chief would attend; That the Runners to call in the Young Warriors, were to be but two Nights absent to Buffaloe Creek.

On the same Day the Onondago Nation attended the Commiſsioners at their Quarters, in open Council, when Kahiktoton made the following Speech.

Brothers attend

Your Meſsengers whom You sent to the Westward are now returned and desire that You will hear the Meſsage they will now deliver to You.

Brothers!

When the Meſsenger left Kanadasegea a Number of the Chiefs told him that they would overtake him at Skawayes, a Place abot 12 Miles on this Side Kanadasegea.

I will first begin with what took Place on the Arrival of your Meſsage at Kanadasegea, They were first discovered by a Chief Man who resides at Kanadasegea called in English Dr. Benton. He supposed the Meſsenger came on public Buſineſs, and inquired what it was. The Meſsenger said he came on public buſineſs, and was not ashamed to mention it, but must first communicate it to the Indian Chiefs.

He inquired where the Chiefs were, he was informed the Spruce Carrier was sick and confined to his Cabbin. He accordingly went to his Cabbin, and communicated the Meſsage.

Upon his delivering the Meſsage three Chiefs and 40 Warriors agreed to come down.

After sleeping 4 Nights your Meſsenger set off with 4 others expreſsing their Intention to sleep at Skawayes. The Chiefs and Warriors agreed to attend the Governor of New York and said they would overtake them and sleep at that Place.

A little before Sunset a French Gentleman called Debarges with a Seneca Warrior, called the Infant overtook them croſsed the Creek and encamped there. While Your Meſsenger was impatiently waiting to be overtaken by the Chiefs and Warriors who had promised to overtake them, the French Gentleman & Warrior recrossed the River and thus addressed them at their Fire Place.

Brothers

We are sent to You by the Chiefs at Kanadasegea called Dr Benton, He says he has much Concern for the good of the Indians and thinks it will be your Destruction if You go down to the Treaty called by the Governor of New York. I know his Intentions; when You return You'll have no Place to set your Foot on. You will be like the wild Beasts which are hunted.

The French Gentleman further said, That Dr Benton said he knew the Designs of the Governor, his own was to provide for their Wives and Children and the Governor's was to destroy them; therefore the Chiefs and Warriors at Kanadasegea had determined not to come.

They were also informed that the Governor had his Troops collected at the German Flatts ready to fall upon them as soon as they returned.

The young Seneca Warrior then told the Warrior that he was very sorry that he was over powered. He was then ready with 40 Warriors to wait on the Governor of New York.

The Prince Carrier is very sick or he

would have come; as also the Cayuga Chief is very sick and at the Point of Death. The Cayugas and our Brothers of the Oneida and some of the Tuscaroras who reside in the Seneca Country, will attend the Governor at the Treaty.

The Strings I now hold up are from the Big Fire to Schonondo & Peter the Priest with Compliments to the Governor of New York. We pray You to poſseſs your Minds in Chief. Our Eyes are fixed on the Chiefs who are gone to Muskingum. In the Spring I shall be glad to meet You and the Governor of New York at any Place he shall fix.

The Governor's Answer.

Brothers!

I thank You for the early Communication of the Meſsage received by You from the Senecas: Before I proceed to give You an Answer We will take a Drink together.

Brothers!

When we speak to You we speak the Voice of the People of the State. We despise the little Artifices made Use of by those of our disobedient Children who are gone among You to deceive You.

After drinking the Governor spoke as follows.

Brothers!

We have now drank together. I hope your Eyes are clear & your Ears are open to hear what I have to say to You. It concerns the Welfare of You and your Children.

The War for a time interrupted the friendly

Intercourse which had subsisted between Us but We were never unmindful of your Interest At the Commencement of Peace, We took the earliest Opportunity of kindling a Council Fire at this Place to revive our antient Friendship.

143 At that Fire a Committee of the five Nations attended and We there solemnly renewed the antient Covenant between Us. We then informed You that it was a fundamental Principle of our Government that no White Man should purchase your Land without the Consent of our Legislature. We then explained to You our Laws & shewed You that they were calculated to preserve our Interest against the Frauds and Impositions of wicked People who we knew would take advantage of You in your unguarded Moments and get your Lands from You unless We took Measures to prevent it.

Brothers!

We told You We had conquered our Enemies and obliged them to make Peace with us. We also told You that We did not consider You as Enemies but Brethren. We did not want to take your Lands from You. We wished You to enjoy them in Peace That if at any Time You should incline to sell any Part of them we would be ready to buy it and give You a generous Price for it; but that any Agreement respecting your Lands should be made agreeable to our Laws and the ancient Usage between Us.

Brothers!

You then expressed your Satisfaction and thanked us for the Care we had taken of your Interest.

Brothers!

After all that had passed our great Council was much surprised and grieved to find that some of their disobedient Children had been among You; that You had received them, treated with them, and leased your Lands to them, without our Knowledge or Consent. This was not only injuring Yourselves but encouraging them to lift up their Hands against their Fathers.

Brothers!

We do not mean to attribute this injurious Conduct to You; for by the Message which You have now delivered to Us, it appears that our disobedient Children have deceived You, and even attempted, by Misrepresentations and Falsehoods to prevent your Meeting Us at this Council Fire, which was kindled up to prevent the Evils they had occasioned. They have for this Purpose reported that We had a Number of armed Men at Tioga and the German Flatts to kill or take You Prisoners, if You should attend at this Place. You now see with your own Eyes that this is false. We are here without Arms even to defend ourselves and living with You like Brothers. If You entertain a Doubt of our friendly

Disposition towards You send some of your young Men down the Country to see if all is not Peace there; I will furnish them with Provisions and a Staff to assist them on their Journey.

Brothers!

From the Accounts We have now received it is not probable the Senecas and Cayugas will attend in Season at this Council Fire; We are therefore now ready to complete our Business with You. Their Absence shall not prevent it.

Brothers!

I have before mentioned to You that some of our white People had obtained a Lease of your Lands against our Consent and contrary to our Laws; that they have deceived You and You have no Means of compelling them to perform their Engagements. It is therefore necessary that We should complete without Delay an Agreement with each other that shall be lasting so as to prevent these Evils from taking Place in future.

On the ninth of September the Onondaga Nation again attended the Commissioners at their Quarters and Pehonwighslowaghte alias Black Cat, in open Council made the following Speech.

Brother Chief of New York, and the

other Chiefs who attend You at this Council Fire attend!

We have conversed several Days on the Subject of your Treaty with us with Respect to our Lands; We have considered your Advise to Us this Morning to act with great Deliberation. We have accordingly taken the Matter into Consideration, and now inform You that this Matter has been considered with great Unanimity in our Nation this Morning.

We have determined on the whole to settle the Business of this Treaty agreeable to your Wishes in which our mutual Good is concerned but as one of our Chief Warriors is so lately returned from the westward and as one of our ~~Chief~~ Sachems is indisposed We wish for further Time for Deliberation and tomorrow Morning You will hear our Voice at which Time We will describe You the Bounds of our Territory between the Oneidas and Cayugas agreeable to ancient Tradition and We will then also mention the Reserves which We wish to be secured to Us.

Brother!

This is all We have to say.

The Governor's Answer.

We are glad to see You and We are happy to hear that You have deliberated upon what We communicated to You this Morning, and that so great a Degree of Unanimity upon the Subject has prevailed in your Nation. Altho' We wish to expedite Business & return home yet We do not wish to precipitate a Matter of so much Importance &

therefore approve of your spending the Remainder of the Day in deliberating on the Subject especially as one of your Chiefs is unwell and your Warrior is so lately returned and cannot be supposed to be yet perfectly acquainted with what has been transacted in his Absence.

In the mean Time We recommend to You Sobriety, while this Business which is of such great Importance to You and your Posterity is transacting and Strangers who are looking on and will laugh at us if while this Business is in Agitation any of Us should be found disguised. If the Business is completed in Sobriety, We shall have no Reason to repent of what has been done. After it is completed We may indulge ourselves in innocent Mirth and Friendship together.

Brothers!

I have now no more to say. We will take a Drink together and smoke our Pipes and then retire to our Deliberations and tomorrow Morning We will attend to hear what further You have to offer.

On the 10th. of September (Mr. Gansevoort having this Day returned) the Onondago Nation again attended the Commissioners at their Quarters and Tehonwaghsloweaghte alias Black Cap in open Council made the following Speech.

Brother Chief and our other Brothers Commissioners, Attend!

We have met to smoak our Pipes together this Morning. We have all been deliberating upon the Subject of the Conversation which We had together some Days ago. We have made up our Minds on the same.

Before We open the Busineſs We mention to You that We have brought a Person here to be our Mouth to You, (namely Col.^o Louis) as You have one Person to be your Mouth to Us.

Brother our Chief & Brothers here present now open your Ears.

We opened our Ears the other Day to hear your Voice, We now request You to open your Ears to hear our Voice.

We have all considered the Conversation which has paſsed between Us since the Beginning of this Treaty. Two things were proposed Us: The one a great and immediate Good, the other a continuing Good to Us and our Children after Us.

Brother!

In your Wisdom You exhorted to great Deliberation on the Subject. We have therefore chosen the latter Proposal You made to Us. We have chosen to convey to You our Country in a Way in which We may receive a continual Benefit; that when the Cold comes We may be kept warm & when hungry, we may have something to subsist on.

Brother!

We would now aſsign a Reason for

our Conduct. We have heard of a Treaty held at Kanadasegea and another held at Buffaloe Creek. We were not concerned in either of these Treaties. We sent some Persons there to be Hearers or Spectators, but We had no Agency in either of those Treaties & utterly disapprove of what was there transacted. The Lands are our own and We appeal to You Brothers, how would You feel if People at a Distance would undertake to sell Lands which belong to You and on which You live, and therefore We must attend to our Interest and endeavour to secure something to Us & our Children after Us. Brother Chiefs!

Now We will describe to You the Boundary of the Territory of our Country as received by Us from ancient Tradition.

The Indians then described the Boundary of their Lands and after some Explanations, retired to consult on the Quantity of Lands to be reserved by them for their own Habitations &c. and then returned and described the Lands which they wish to be secured to them.

On this Day the Commissioners notified the Oneida Chiefs that they would be ready to commence Business with them on Monday the 15th instant and requested their Attendance in the Morning of that Day.

It appearing to the Commiſsioners in the Progreſs of the Treaty with the Onondagoes that it would be advantageous to the State as well as very agreeable to the Indians that Part of the Consideration should be paid in Goods. It was Resolved that Mr Tayler do immediately endeavour to procure a Quantity of Goods for the Use of the Onondagoes, if they were to be procured at Fort Schuyler and that he proceed to Albany without Delay to purchase and forward to this Place a Quantity of Goods in Order to facilitate the proposed Negotiations with the Oneidas.

Resolved also that Richard Varick pay to Mr Tayler the Sum of five hundred Pounds to be applied by him for the Purposes aforesaid.

The Agreement with the Onondagoes being perfected they requested that the Deeds of Ceſsion might be completed and said they would attend to execute them upon receiving Notice from the Commiſsioners.

The 11th Day of September was employed in adjusting the Form of the Deeds of Ceſsion and in getting them engroſsed, and on the 12th the Onondagoes attended the Commiſsioners and the Deeds were executed and the Consideration Monies paid to them in full Council. It appearing upon a Calculation of the Value of the Goods paid to the Onondagoes as part of the Consideration stipulated to be paid to them that there was a Deficiency of fifty Pounds, that Sum was then paid to them in

Specie; and the further Sum of fifty one Pounds four Shillings was distributed by Order of the Board in Presents and Rewards for Services done.

The Deeds being executed are in the Words following Vizt. (a)

At a Treaty held at Fort Schuyler formerly called Fort Stanwix in the State of New York, by his Excellency George Clinton Governor of the said State and William Floyd, Ezra L'Hommedieu, Richard Varick, Samuel Jones, Egbert Benson, and Peter Gansevoort Junr. (Commissioners authorized for that Purpose by and on Behalf of the People of the State of New York) with the Tribe or Nation of Indians called the Onondagoes it is on the twelfth Day of September in the Year one thousand seven hundred and eighty eight covenanted and concluded as follows.

First, the Onondagoes do cede and grant all their Lands to the People of the State of New York forever.

Secondly, the Onondagoes shall of the said ceded Lands hold to themselves and their Posterity forever for their own Use & Cultivation but not to be sold leased or in any other Manner aliened or disposed of to others;

All that Tract of Land beginning at the Southerly End of the Salt Lake at the Place where the River or Stream on which the Onondagoes now have their Village empties into the said Lake and runs from the said Place of beginning East three Miles thence Southerly according to the general Course of the said River until it shall intersect a Line running East & West at the Distance of three Miles South from the said Village, thence from the said Point of Intersection West nine Miles thence Northerly parrallel to the second Course above mentioned until an East Line will strike the Place of Beginning, and thence East to the said Place of beginning.

Thirdly,

The Onondagoes and their Posterity forever shall enjoy the free Right of Hunting in every Part of the said ceded Lands and of fishing in all the Waters within the same.

Fourthly,

The Salt Lake and the Lands for one Mile around the same shall forever remain for the common Benefit of the People of the State of New York and of the Onondagoes and their Posterity for the Purpose of making Salt, and shall not be granted or in any wise disposed of for other Purposes.

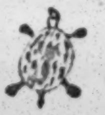
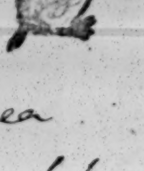
Fifthly,

In Consideration of the said Cession and Grant the People of the State of New York do at this Treaty pay to the Onondagoes one thousand French Crowns in Money and two hundred Pounds in Cloathing at the Price which the same cost the

People of the State of New York (the Receipt of which Money and Clothing the Onondagoes do now acknowledge) and the People of the State of New York shall annually pay to the Onondagoes and their Posterity forever on the first Day of June in every Year at Fort Schuyler aforesaid five hundred Dollars in Silver but if the Onondagoes or their Posterity shall at any Time hereafter elect that the whole or any Part of the said five hundred Dollars shall be paid in Clothing or Provisions and give six Weeks previous Notice thereof to the Governor of the said State for the Time being then so much of the annual Payment shall for that Time be in Clothing or Provisions as the Onondagoes or their Posterity shall elect and at the Price which the same shall cost the People of the State of New York at Fort Schuyler aforesaid.

Sixthly,

The People of the State of New York may in such Manner as they shall deem proper prevent any Persons except the Onondagoes from residing or settling on the Lands to be held by the Onondagoes and their Posterity for their own Use & Cultivation and if any Persons shall without the Consent of the People of the State of New York come to reside or settle on the said Lands or on any other of the Lands so ceded as aforesaid the Onondagoes and their Posterity shall forthwith give Notice of such Intrusions to the Governor of the said State for the Time being. And further the Onondagoes and their Posterity forever shall at the Request of the Governor of the said State be aiding to the People of the State of New York in removing all such Intruders and in apprehending not only such Intruders but also Felons and other Offenders who may happen to be on the said ceded Lands to the End that such Intruders, Felons and other Offenders may be brought to Justice. In Testimony whereof as well the Sachems, Chiefs, Warriors & others of the said Onondagoes in Behalf of their Tribe or Nation as the said Governor and other Commissioners on Behalf of the People of the State of New York, have hereunto interchangeably set their Hands and affixed their Seals the Day & Year first above written.

Turtle Tribe	Turtle	Sehonwaghslaweaghte		(L.S.)	His Mark
		Shagoyenawaghskwe	X	(L.S.)	His Mark
		Hunodaes	X	(L.S.)	His Mark
		Sagoèyons	X	(L.S.)	His Mark
		Sagosaiewas, by the Chief of the Clan	X	(L.S.)	His Mark.
	Beaver	Hanadakeawaghte	X	(L.S.)	His Mark
		Adahiswaendaia'hsea	X	(L.S.)	His Mark
		Waghs'haine by the Chief of the Clan	X	(L.S.)	His Mark
	Wolffe	Sehoenagalaongh	X	(L.S.)	His Mark
		Shagohaaseghs by the Chief of the Clan	X	(L.S.)	His Mark
		Onoeileghte by the Chief of the Clan	X	(L.S.)	His Mark
	Bear	Hakiktoton		(L.S.)	His Mark.
		Sehojiskeaiyea	X	(L.S.)	His Mark.
		Waghselonyahhe by the Chief of the Clan	X	(L.S.)	His Mark.

Deer {
Kanaghsetigea . . . (L.S.) His Mark
Ugojighkwugèwa by his Cousin × (L.S.) His Mark
Skaniyadaliyo . . . ×(L.S.) His Mark
Kalonghkyo by his Brother . . × (L.S.) His Mark

Eel {
Agwelondongwas . . . (L.S.) His Mark
Shanekwàghkwa by the Chief of the Clan × (L.S.) His Mark
Otjanoenwe . . . . × (L.S.) His Mark

Governesses {
Tjeanoenikhe . . . × (L.S.) Her Mark
Kaeghkewa . . . × (L.S.) Her Mark

Geo Clinton (L.S.) William Floyd (L.S.)
Ezra L'Hommedieu (L.S.) Richard Varick (L.S.)
Samuel Jones (L.S.) Egbert Benson (L.S.)
Peter Gansevoort Junr. (L.S.)

Witnesses Present
Simeon DeWitt Survr. Genl.
Louis his × Mark Nyadeghkalongweak – Of the Oneidas
Chief Governess of the Senecas } Kayendatsyona her × Mark
Senecas } Shagoddiyadyestha her × mark
Kanowcantho his × mark
Jaiighqualel . his × mark
Senecas } Skanooewa his Mark
Shagokanyos his × mark
Cayugas } Kaniongwe . his mark
Kaghyonthiyo his × mark

Samuel Kirkland Interpreter
John J. Bleecker Interpreter
J. P. Penet. Saml. Latham Mitchell
Nicolas Jourdain. Wm. Colbratt.
Frederick Fox . Abm. Bloodgood.

The Treaty with the Onondagoes was then closed by the following Speech.

Brothers! Sachems Chiefs and Warriors of the Onondagoes, open your Ears and attend while We speak a few Words to You. We have Reason to thank the Great Spirit for the Good Disposition which We have had towards each other at this Council Fire.

Brothers!

We met here to consult together for our mutual Interest; We have opened our Minds to each other and We trust We have clearly understood each other and We are persuaded that the Covenant which We have now solemnly entered into with each other will endure and be faithfully kept between the Parties forever in Confirmation of which on our Part and of our perpetual Friendship to You We now present You this Belt.

A Belt afterwards annexed to their Deed.

Brothers!

In making this Covenant We have regarded what appeared to Us to be the true Interest of both the Parties and We sincerely wish that You would so improve the Advantages to arise from it as that it may promote the Happiness of Yourselves and your Posterity forever.

Brothers!

As the Business on which We met is now happily accomplished, We shall cover up the Council Fire at this Time and take a Drink and smoke our Pipes together and devote the Remainder of the Day to decent Mirth.

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It has always been usual for your Forefathers and Ours thus to relax their Minds after the Fatigue of important Business in Council and We do not wish to depart from this ancient Custom on the present Occasion when Matters have been concluded so much to our mutual Satisfaction.

Brothers!

When You find it convenient for You to return home We will furnish You with Provisions for your Journey and a Staff to help You on the Road

Tehonwaghslaweaghte alias Black Cap then addressed the Commissioners as follows.

Brother the Chief and those Chiefs who are with You of the State of New York!

You will now attend in your Turn. The Great Spirit above has chosen out this Day for finishing the Business of the Council Fire, at which We have revived the ancient Custom between your Forefathers of New York and Albany on the one Part and the Onondagoes on the other Part even so far back as the Time of Queder Corlaer al: Peter Schuyler

Brother!

You have been pleased to remark that Wisdom Openness and Goodnature have attended the whole of our Negociation.

You acknowledged that for this We are indebted to the Great Spirit above; We on our Part heartily join with You in this Acknowledgement, and We are happy to observe that Friendship and a tender Regard for our Interest has marked every Step of your Conduct towards Us on this Occasion.

Brothers!

No sooner had You heard of what had been done at Kanadasegea last Fall, which endangered our Interest, than You appointed this Council Fire to establish that which We should have forever lost, without your Interposition.

The Agreement which We have this Day entered into, We consider as done in the Presence of the Great Spirit, and We call upon all here present and all Nations around us, especially the Americans, to bear Witneſs to it.

Our Children and Children's Children to the latest Generation, will look back to the Transactions of this Day. You have now secured to Us and our Posterity what We consider as a Territory sufficiently large for Us and all our Posterity to live upon, and every Priviledge arising from our whole Territory We enjoy and shall continue to enjoy.

Brothers!

We have this Day renewed our ancient Friendship and entered into solemn Covenant. Let all here present be Witneſs to it. No evil Spirit shall be able to break the Covenant which We have this Day compleated; for Union begets Strength. An Individual is like the single Stick which I hold in my Hand; how easy is it broke (then breaks the Stick in three Pieces and grasps them together) how weak when single & how strong when together. The Covenant We have entered into this Day will confirm and establish our friendly Alliance with our American Brethren forever.

Agreeably to ancient Custom, You have delivered to me in Behalf of my Nation a Belt with a Writing containing the Articles of our Covenant to be kept by Us for Us and our Children to look upon, And I likewise delivered to You a Belt with a Writing speaking the same Language to be deposited in your Office for You and Your Children to look upon: And if any evil Spirit shall disturb the Peace between Us We will recur to this Writing and Peace will be again established between Us.

Now Brother, agreeable to your Proposal let us rejoice this Day.

Brother!

We have no more to say.

On the same Day and before the Completion of the Business with the Onondagoes, a Number of Seneca Warriors with one of their Chief Governesses residing at the Genesee having arrived, they attended at the Commissioners Quarters and addressed them with the following Speech accompanied with a String of Wampum.

Brother, the Chief of this Council Fire!

You will open your Ears, while We some of the Warriors of the Senecas addreſs You. It has pleased the Great Spirit to preserve Us in our respective journies, until We have met together.

You our Brother the Chief preside over a great People and are come from a great Distance; We also are come far from the West. Brother the Chief We desire You to poſseſs your Mind in Peace, notwithstanding You do not see the Faces of any of our Sachems or Chiefs here with Us, the Warriors now present. It is true they promised and it was their Intention to have come but they were hindered. We are under Embarraſsments. The Warriors whom You see here present, were so desirous to meet You at this Council Fire, that they were determined to contend with every Difficulty rather than not see You.

Brother!

The Seneca Warriors here present salute You and congratulate You and the Chiefs who accompany You, on your safe Arrival at this Place, and We thank the Great Spirit that he has preserved You and the Chiefs who attend You, from the Influence of the Evil Spirit on your Journey hither. Here is also present the Chief of the Female Goveneſses in our Nation with some of her Sisters, who also pay their Respects to You and join with us in our Congratulations (here the Congratulations of the Men were in Behalf of the Women repeated by the Speaker.)

A String.

The Governor's Answer.

Brother!

I and the Chiefs who accompany me are very glad to see you and thank You for this Mark of Respect, and especially for the Visit from our Sister the Chief of the Governesses, and the Sisters who accompany her; as the Journey must have been peculiarly fatiguing to them. With You We thank the Great Spirit that he has preserved us together. We lament that Your Sachems and Chiefs have been prevented from meeting Us: But We know that there are wicked and designing Men who for injurious Purposes, have endeavoured to prevent not only our Brothers the Senecas but also our Brothers the Cayugas, Onondagoes and Oneidas from Meeting Us. The Onondagoes and Oneidas have notwithstanding met Us and We have settled Matters with the Onondagoes, to our mutual Satisfaction & made a Covenant with them in such a Manner as will be most for their Good & prevent any Abuses in future against them.

As the Sachems and Chiefs of the Senecas are not present it is not in our Power formally to renew the ancient Covenant and brighten the Chain of Friendship that has existed between us or to enter on or transact any Business with You our Brothers now present, but We are notwithstanding happy to see You and We wish that some of You would remain and be Witneſses to the Completion of the Covenant between Us & the Onondagoes so that You may always bear your Testimony to the Fairneſs of the Transaction and be able to inform your Nation of it on your Return home.

The String returned to the Chief of the Governeſses.

In the Evening of the same Day Kahiktoton one of the Onondaga Chiefs in the Presence of the Nation announced to the Commiſsioners that O: Ojanoenwe alias Jones would be his Succeſsor and in Testimony thereof delivered to the Commiſsioners a String of six Rows of Wampum.

On the 13th a Summons in the Form before mentioned was iſsued and served on Hezekiah Chapman of Uxbridge in the State of Maſsachusetts he having arrived this Day at this Place who attended agreeable to his Summons and was examined and his Deposition was taken and sworn to before the Commiſsioners.

On Monday an additional Number of Senecas having arrived and now amounting to near eighty in the whole and no Hopes remaining that such a Representation of that Nation would attend as to enable them to transact Busineſs with the Commiſsioners. It was determined that immediate Measures should be taken to induce them to return home and to effect this Visit it would be a Saving to the Public) to make some small pecuniary Presents to them particularly to the leading Characters among them, and the more especially as their returning satisfied to their Country, and informing the Cayugas and their own Nation of the Transactions with the Onondagoes and of the satisfactory Agreement which was effected between the State and that Nation, would be attended with salutary Consequences.

On the 16th the Governor and other Commissioners attended in the Ruins of Fort Schuyler where the Seneca Indians were encamped and addressed them in a Speech to the following Effect, having previously communicated the Wish of the Commissioners to the leading Characters among them for their immediate Return to their Country, and distributed among thirty seven Crowns.

Brothers! Young Warriors of the Seneca Nation open your Ears, and hear a few Words I have to speak to You.

Brothers!

When it was proposed to kindle a Council Fire at this Place: The Chiefs of the six Nations were invited to it, and it was expected they would have attended. The Business to be transacted was of great Importance to You all. As soon as We were informed that a Number of our disobedient and disorderly Children were among our Brethren of the six Nations treating with them for their Lands contrary to our Laws and the ancient Custom of transacting Business between us, and attempting to cheat and deceive You, We determined to kindle up a Council Fire at this Place, to renew the ancient Covenant of Friendship, that has so long subsisted between Us, brighten the Chain of Friendship & to concert Measures as well for securing to You Your Property as to prevent any Abuses that might be attempted against You in future. We regret therefore that the Intrigues and Artifices of a Set of wicked Men who have intruded themselves among You should have prevented the Attendance of a National Representation from the Cayuga and your Nation at this Council Fire. The Attempts which were made by these Men at Kanadasegea to prevent your coming on, must convince You of their evil Intentions. You have now seen with your own Eyes and heard with your own Ears and You are able to determine whether what these Men told You at Kanadasegea is true or false. We have received You with Friendship. We have treated You kindly, and You have discovered no hostile Appearance in this Quarter. Our Brethren the Onondagoes listened to our Invitation; they have attended and We have settled all Matters with them to our mutual Interest & Satisfaction, and established our Friendship We trust on a lasting and permanent Basis

Brothers!

Altho your Nation is not represented

here so as to transact Busineſs, it has given Us great Pleasure to see the Chiefs of the female Governeſses here and You young Warriors, & especially as You have now been Witneſses to the fair and candid Manner in which We have conducted and settled our Busineſs with the Onondagoes, and how anxiously We have attended to their true Interest.

Brothers!

We expect You will now return home and inform the Chiefs and Sachems of the Cayuga and Your own Nation, of all You have seen and heard, and of our Desire of renewing our ancient Covenant and of brightening the Chain of Friendship and of settling all our Busineſs with them. It is neceſsary You should return home with Expedition that by spreading the Truth among your Brethren You may prevent the Mischiefs that are attempted against them by bad Men who deal in Falsehoods

(Here the Nature of the Settlement with Maſsachusetts and the Purchase made under the Authority of that State was freely explained and the Difference of the Conduct of the Proprietors under that Government and the Men who call themselves the New York Genesee Company pointed out)

Brothers!

We desire You to inform the Chiefs and Warriors of the Cayuga Nation and such of your own Nation as are connected and interested with them, that We still have their Interest much at Heart and that We are desirous of settling all our Concerns with them on the same fair and reasonable Terms that We have with our Brethren the Onondagoes and that for this Purpose We will kindle a Council Fire at Albany the first of January when we expect they will meet Us.

Brothers!

I will furnish You with Provisions for your Journey home and a Staff to help You on the Road, and Tobacco that You may smoke your Pipes. These shall be forwarded to Armstrong's at the Mouth of Canada Creek where they will be tomorrow Morning at ten O'Clock.

A String of Wampum and a Present of 37 Crowns

To which the Senecas made the following Answer

Brother Governor with your Chiefs attend!

You have now spoken to Us. You have acquainted Us with the Design of your kindling a Council Fire at this Place, which was to renew the ancient Covenant of Friendship subsisting betwixt your Forefathers and Ours, and that You would not have called Us here at this Time on this Business, had not some disorderly People of Your own State broken that Covenant by attempting to purchase our Lands without the Authority and Direction of your Chiefs, and contrary to our ancient Customs. You have also informed Us particularly of your friendly Negociation with the Onondagoes and the competent Territory reserved for their own Use and secured to their Posterity forever by all the Chiefs of your State; The Onondagoes told Us the same, and We were Witnesses to it. This Transaction being done agreeably to ancient Custom, has given Us great Pleasure. You have desired Us to take Charge of this String of Wampum and communicated its Import to our Chiefs at Genesee, and then forwards it to Buffaloe Creek.

Brother!

This We will faithfully do. We observed to You upon our Arrival, that We were only young Warriors, not capable of transacting any National Business. We came to be mere hearers. We were determined to see You and hear your Voice. We had to struggle hard to break through the Opposition that was made to our coming down by some of your disobedient Children. We will now tell You how Things really are among Us. The Voice of the Birds and proud strong Words uttered by some of your own People at Kanadasegea overcame the Sachems and turned them back after they had twice promised to come down with Us.

Brother!

Your Invitation to the Chiefs to meet You in Albany about New Year We shall carefully deliver and we flatter ourselves that with the Assistance of the Chief of the Female Governesses here present We shall be able to quiet the

Minds of all on our River, and You may expect to see the Chiefs of our Nation and of the Cayugas by the Middle of Winter. We shall also expect to hear from You again before that Time. We are encouraged in the Proſpect which now opens to Us that all the Affairs that pertain to our Peace and the Good of our Nation will be by and by settled, and firmly established to our Satisfaction.

Brothers!

We thank You for your Kindneſs to Us since We came upon the Ground, and the Proviſion You have made for our Return.

We have no more to say.

They were accordingly supplied with Proviſions & a Meſs to wit, four Kegs of Rum to aſsist them on their Journey and they departed in two Days thereafter apparently very well satisfied.

In the Afternoon of the same Day the Oneida Nation attended the Commiſsioners at their Quarters in Council and the Governor addreſsed them as follows.

Sachems, Chiefs and Warriors of the Oneidas.

Brothers!

From our Meſsage to You last Spring and last Summer, You will be sensible that We intended to hold a general Treaty at this Time with You and our Brothers the other Nations of Indians within this State; and We had expected that they would all have attended and when You and We met together on our Arrival at this Place We had still some Hopes of a Number from the other Nations especially the Senecas and Cayugas competent to represent them, and therefore your Proposal at that Time to return Home to attend to your private Affairs and there to remain till We had informed You that the other Nations were come so that We were ready to proceed on the Business of a general Treaty being for our mutual Convenience, was perfectly agreeable to Us. It was an Evidence of Care and Industry which gave Us much Pleasure. While We were waiting in the Expectation of the Attendance of the other Nations which however became daily more improbable, our Brothers the Onondagoes who were here, then signified to their Wish to make a new and perpetual Covenant with Us for their Nation seperately, in Relation to their Lands. We accordingly entered on the Business with them, and it is now accomplished to our mutual Satisfaction and We are persuaded in a Manner most beneficial for them as well as most for the Peace and Interest of the State. They haved ceded all their Lands to the State reserving to themselves the free Right of hunting and fishing throughout the whole of the Lands and also reserving to themselves for their own Use and Cultivation a very large Tract and more than sufficient for that Purpose, and a Mile around the Salt=Lake is to remain for the Purpose of making Salt in which they are to have an equal Right with our People. We have paid them eleven hundred and ten French Crowns in Silver and furnished them with Clothing to the Amount of one hundred and fifty Pounds without any Advance on the Price, And We have agreed to furnish them at this Place on the first Day of June in every Year forever with Clothing & Provisions to the Amount of two hundred Pounds without any Advance on the Price or to pay them five hundred dollars in Money as they shall from Time to Time elect. We thought it proper before We open our business with You to inform You of what has been done between Us and the Onondagoes, to explain to You whence it arose that We have treated with them seperately, and that You might be convinced that in the Covenant which We have now made with them, We have been as attentive to real Benefit to them as to any Advantage to the State.

Brothers attend!

The Legislature of this State has heard that some of their People had without their Consent and Authority and contrary to the Constitution and Laws of the State and contrary to the ancient and salutary Usage which has always subsisted between your Forefathers and ours and between You and Us, been with You and our Brothers the Senecas Cayugas and Onondagoes in Order to get your Lands from You, and these People having pretended that they had obtained from You and the other Nations of Indians what they call Leases of all your Lands under certain annual Rents.

Altho we will severely punish our People for this Act of Disobedience to their own Constitution and Laws the Legislature of the State supposed they would notwithstanding be wanting in Care and Friendship to You, if they did not at the same Time take some Measures for preventing the Evils which might befall You, should these evil minded Persons attempt to settle on your Lands claiming them under such pretended Leases. They have therefore appointed Us their Commissioners to meet You at this Council Fire in Order that You and We might consult together and agree on what will be most for your Interest and Security and will best preserve Peace and good Government in the State in Opposition to the injurious Designs of these unworthy Citizens

Brothers!

Speak your Minds freely to Us. Inform us fully how these Matters are, & let us know what You suppose most eligible to be done.

Brothers!

You are sensible that in all transactions between Your Forefathers & ours and between You and Us, good Faith towards You and a Regard for your Welfare has always been observed and We hope You will be fully persuaded, that We meet You with the same Disposition and that it is requisite that in all our Consultations together We should have perfect Confidence in each other & that neither You nor We should have any other Object than mutual Good.

(Here a String of Wampum)

Brothers!

Having accomplished our Business with the Onondagoes We have it in our Power now wholly to attend to You, but as We have been detained here for some Time waiting for our Brothers the other Nations, and as other public Business requires that several of Us should soon return home, We could wish that the Business to be transacted between You and Us may receive as much Dispatch as the Importance and Difficulty of it will admit.

To which Oneyanha alias Beach Tree commonly called Peter the Qr. Master made the following Reply.

Brother of the State of New York & all the Chiefs here present with him, attend!

Your Governor has now opened your Minds to us; We have heard your Words in every thing You have spoken to Us. The Great Spirit has seen fit to give Us a pleasant Day at which You have spoken of the ancient Covenant between Your Forefathers and ours, and pleasant Days they were, and the Revival of them gladdens our Hearts. In opening the Business of this Council Fire You have mentioned many

Things to Us, they are all important, they require great Deliberation: We therefore make no Reply, but tomorrow You shall hear our Voice. You may depend on it, that We will proceed with Wisdom, for We your Brethren the Oneidas are accustomed to speak decidedly, and after due Deliberation. Possess your Minds in Peace, that We decline making an Answer at present. You have told Us that a good Mind is necessary in deliberating on Things of Importance. That You possess this Mind; And You may rely upon it that the same Temper will influence our Conduct, and that our mutual Good will be consulted.

Brothers!

We have Nothing further to add at present.

Brother,

We will take the Freedom to add one Word more altho' We mean to speak freely, and altho' We may speak strong Words Let us take Care that We say Nothing on either Side that will excite Passion or give Offence.

Previous to entering upon Business with the Oneidas the following Resolution was entered into by the Board and a Copy thereof signed by all the Commissioners was delivered to Jacob Reed Vizt

Jacob Reed and certain several other

Persons of the Oneidas having represented to the Board that John Livingston, Caleb Benton, Ezekiel Gilbert and others commonly known by the Name of the New York Genesee Company of Adventurers, in Consideration of Promises from them the said several Persons of the Oneidas to aſsist them the said Company in obtaining a Lease from the Oneida Nation of their Lands had by executing Notes, and otherwise entered into Contracts to them the said several Persons of the Oneidas for the Payment of Monies or Goods Provided they the said Company should succeed in obtaining such Lease, and the said several Persons having also stated to the Board that Payments in Part have been made on the said Contracts and expreſsed their Apprehensions that in Case an Agreement should now take place between the Board and the Oneida Nation for a Ceſsion of Lands to the State that the said Company would attempt to recover back the Value of the said Payments in Part which having been expended by the several Persons to whom the same were paid and they being unable to repay the same that therefore Suits for such Recoveries as aforesaid should the said Company prevail therein would prove ruinous to them the said several Persons; and that by Reason of such Apprehensions the said several Persons had hitherto in the Council of their Nation altogether refrained from aſsenting to or advising a Ceſsion of Lands to the State and such Lease having been intended to be obtained not under the Authority or with the Consent of the Legislature, and Meſs.rs Benson, Jones and Varick having delivered it as their Opinion to the Board that the said Contracts were void and therefore that the said Company had no Remedy in Law for the Recovery back of whatever might have been paid in Part on such Contracts: Thereupon Resolved by the Board that if at this present Treaty with the Oneida Nation they should make a Ceſsion of Lands to the State to be accepted of by the Board, that then the Faith of the State be considered as pledged to every Person of the Oneidas for a full Indemnity against all Suits which may be commenced against them by any Person of the said Company on or in any wise relating to any such Contracts as aforesaid.

On the seventeenth a Deputation from the Chiefs of the Oneida Nation consisting of Ojistalale alias Col.o Hanjurry, Gaghsaweda alias Lodwick and Shonoughleys alias Anthony waited on the Commiſsioners to let them know that the Oneida Nation were ready to speak to them if it suited the Commiſsioners to attend.

Upon which the Company being seated Onoyantha als. the Beech Tree arose and addreſsed the Commiſsioners to the following Effect.

Brother Chief of the State of New York and other the Chieſs accompanying You Attend!

Yesterday You congratulated Us on our Meeting at this Council Fire We now in Turn congratulate You and all the Chieſs and Warriors here present, on our being reaſsembled on this Day.

Brother from the State of New York, and all present, and our Sachems and Warriors Attend!

Yesterday You opened the Busineſs of this Council; some things in the Course of your Speech seem to enter into our Minds You observed to Us that they were Matters of Importance and required great Deliberation. You alſo observed to Us that it was neceſsary to the Accomplishment of the Busineſs to our mutual Satisfaction that We should perfectly understand each other, for which Reason We require that You would repeat to Us again the principal Things mentioned in your Speech of Yesterday that all may hear in full Council that We may perfectly understan each other. He then after seating himſelf exhorted his Nation to Attention to the Subject as it was their Request to have the Speech repeated.

A String of 3 Rows of White Wampum.

The Governor then at the Request of the Commiſsioners informed the Indians that the Speech which he made to them Yesterday was committed to Writing, that he had it in his

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Hand and would now deliver to the Interpreters that they might repeat the whole of it over again to them in their own Language; That it was the sincere Desire of the Commissioners that they might clearly understand the Nature of the Business now to be transacted at this Council Fire so that whatever Agreement might be entered into between Us might be lasting and no new Difficulties arise. And thereupon the Governor delivered the Speech to Mr Kirkland who interpreted it to the Indians in the Presence and to the Approbation of Mr Bleeker the other Interpreter and Nicholas Jourdain (who attended at the Instance of the Indians they having notified their Intentions some days ago by Letter of having him for their Mouth) and of Peter Otsiquette and Coll. Louis all of whom have some Knowledge of both Languages.

Before any Reply was made by the Indians, Intelligence was received of the Death of Joseph one of their Warriors and that his Body was found in the Wood Creek below the Landing and Messengers were immediately dispatched to inquire into the Truth of the Report, soon after which the Runners who were sent out, proclaimed the Truth of the Fact by sounding the dead Hoop.

The Facts being inquired into it appeared that it was an accidental Death, as his Body lay in the Creek clad as when he went out, and his Pipe on the Shore and the Company being again composed and seated the Governor (thro' Peter the Quarter Master) delivered the following Short Speech of Condolence agreeable to Custom accompanied with a String of six Rows of black Wampum.

Brothers!

I and my Brother Commissioners condole with You on the unfortunate Death of one of your young Warriors and we sincerely lament this unhappy Accident, the more especially at the Time when We were met in Council to transact our public Business. It is however the Hand of the Great Spirit, to which it is our Duty to submit and which is not to be resisted.

It is the Duty of the Living to transact Business, & I trust it will not be unnecessarily retarded by this unfortunate Event. With this String We wipe off the Tears from your Eyes, and cover up the dead Body.

To which Agwelentongwas alias Domine Peter or good Peter made an elegant, pathetic and short Reply and requested that the Council Fire might be covered up until the Funeral Rites of their deceased young Warrior were performed according to their Custom when his Nation would again attend to the public Business.

After this Reply, Good Peter addressed himself to the whole Nation and to the Young Warriors in particular and after impressing upon them in the most lively and pathetic Stile, the pernicious Consequences of an excessive Use of Spirituous Liquor, he called for their Attention to the Resolutions of their own Sachems which he said they must abide by or be their own Destroyers. Brothers! Young Warriors attend!

Upon this sorrowful Event, We your Chiefs have resolved unanimously that no one of us, during this Treaty apply to the Governor or Commissioners for any Rum. Let him measure it out to us as he shall judge proper; We are not fit to prescribe as to this Article. Some who are great Drinkers have often given in both Women and Children in their List and drawn for the whole Company as Warriors and thereby encreased the Quantity beyond all reasonable Bounds. Let the Governor therefore determine if he sees fit to give a Glass in the Morning and at Noon and then at Night while on Business, and if any remain after each one is served let it be taken off from the Ground.

This was the ancient Custom at Albany in the Days of our Forefathers, when a great Number of Indians were assembled on the Hill above the City; The Rum was brought there and each one drank a Glass and was satisfied. No true Indian who had the

Spirit of a Man was ever known in that Day to run to a Commissioner and demand a Bottle of Rum upon the Ground of his being a great Man, and another two for the same Reason which is the Practice now a Days. no such great Men were known in ancient happy Times.

On the 18th the Commissioners agreeable to Invitation attended the Funeral of Joseph the young Warrior, and on the 19th the Oneida Nation attended the Commissioners at their Quarters and in Council Agwelentongwas alias Domine Peter, or good Peter arose and addressed the Governor and Commissioners as follows.

Governor of the State of New York and
Your Chiefs here present, now attend!

Possess your Minds in Peace if We should not answer every Particle in your Speech of the other Day. You observed that it was of Importance We should understand each other. You told Us the Object of the Treaty was our mutual Good. A Number here will be collected, some of them to be Witnesses and enable Us to understand each other's Mind. We are not afraid on our Part that all Nations should hear us, and understand what We say.

We shall make a Reply but in Part to what You have imparted to us, as the Subject of the Treaty is of so much Importance.

I also observed to you Brother, that We chose all should hear what we had to say as what is transacted secretly has a bad Appearance.

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All Business relating to the Public should be transacted openly.

Brother the Chiefs of New York!

You remarked to us upon the ancient Covenant of Friendship which subsisted between our Ancestors and yours, this Covenant was made between the People of New York and our Ancestors the six Nations. This Covenant was interrupted for a short Time by the late War, but on the Return of Peace, You told us that We were the Proprietors of the Soil and You restored even the others of the six Nations, who had joined the British to their former Possessions.

Brother Governor!

I shall remark only upon a few things that have passed between us. soon after we had returned to our former Habitation the Voice of a Bird came to us and said You Oneidas are about to cut off a Part of your Country & to and sell it, but this did not come from your great Council. You then summoned us to a Council at the German Flatts. You there told us of this and we then came to a Settlement of all Matters which this Bird had thrown in the Way of our ancient Covenant.

At this Council a Covenant and Bargain was entered into between Us and You told Us You should not want to buy any of our Lands again, no not forever.

Brother!

Your Ears are now open to hear as We continue to speak, but a little while after We finished our Business with You at the German Flatts, behold a Voice again reached our Ears which occasioned You to look around to see who had gone from your Great Council and You soon discovered that some Persons had without your Authority procured from the Tribes to the Westward, their Lands and presently thereafter the Voice of the same Bird informed You that We Oneidas had in the same Manner, also parted with our Lands which induced You in your Wisdom to assemble this Council to remove the Evils which had broken upon our ancient Covenant.

Brother!

You acquainted us upon your Arrival of the Reasons in general of your kindling the Council Fire at this Place; also of the Invitation Strings You sent out last Spring and this Summer to invite all the six Nations to attend the Meeting; That soon after however your Hopes of a General Meeting with the six Nations almost expired, and ours did also; That soon after our Brethren the Onondagoes proposed a Settlement with You agreeable to the ancient Usage between You and them; That You acceded to their Proposal and that your Minds had met to your mutual Satisfaction except as to the Salt Springs which You submitted to them and they proposed that those Springs should remain to the Use of both Parties to which You readily consented. It is not necessary for me to recapitulate all that passed between You and the Onondagoes; their Territory was their own, and I have only to express my Joy and that of my Nation that You have settled with them and that that Part of their Country which they have reserved to themselves is secured to them. I have only to observe that some Contracts have a long Path and last for a Man's Life, others have a short one and are destroyed by Disorders, but this is made to endure forever.

Brother!

I wish for myself to step a little aside from the Order of doing Business. We have an ancient Boundary Line between Us and our Brethren of the Onondagoes and wish We could have been present and settled that with our Onondago Friends.

Brother Governor with your Chiefs!

You are now continuing to hear You observed to us that on having settled all Matters amicably with our Friends the Onondagoes, Nothing remained but a Settlement with us to our mutual Good and Advantage; You also observed that the Object before Us was of great Importance and concerned our common Interest, for which Reason it was necessary that a Calm deliberate and unprejudiced Mind should possess Us both for which Reason We concluded that not our present or immediate Good but a Good which respects our Posterity was to be consulted.

Brother!

You further observed to Us, in the Course of your Speech that We should speak our Minds openly at the present Treaty with Regard to ourselves our Country and our Posterity; That You did not wish to streighten us; that in whatever Lands We should cede to You, our Warriors should have the Priviledge of Hunting and Fishing, and that a Line should be drawn round the Part We should reserve to ourselves to secure it to Us and our Posterity.

Brother!

You further observed to Us that the Perplexity and uncertain State of our Country now called forth your Attention in your Great Council and that your Minds were much disturbed upon hearing in what Situation the Lands of Us the six Nations were in, from a Regard You had to the ancient Covenant existing between You and us; and that owing to the irregular and disorderly Conduct of some of your Children, even some good Men had been misled; and that it was in your Power and that You would punish the disobedient for their Conduct.

Brother!

I have once observed to You that it was not in our Power to repeat the whole of your Speech to Us nor would it be in yours, if You had not the Advantage of being acquainted with Letters or Writing. I now with my Voice give You the sincere

Thanks of my Nation for your Speech which hath strewed the Path with Light to direct our Steps.

A String of three Rows of White Wampum

He then made an Apology that he was fatigued and wished to set down and rest and that in the mean time according to ancient Custom another Speaker would arise and raise the Spirit of their deceased Sachem the Graſs Hopper. But before he sat down he observed to the Governor that the Man bearing the Name of Oedatseghta is the first Name known in their National Council and had long been published throughout the Confederacy; that his Friend the Graſs Hopper was the Counsellor for the Tribe to whom that Name belonged, and that therefore they replaced the Graſs Hopper with this Lad whom You are to call Kanyadaligo (presenting the young Lad to the Governor and Commiſsioners) And that until he arrives to an Age to qualify him to transact Buſineſs personally in Council, their Friend Hans Jurie is to bear the Name of Ojistalale alias Graſs Hopper and to be the Counsellor for this young Man and his Clan until that Period.

He then further observed,

Brothers!

There is one other small Matter

The Onondagoes chose one to be a Mouth and Ear for them, and You had one on your Part with which You were content. We have now chosen Colo. Louis and Peter Otsequette to be our Mouth and Ear with which We hope You will also be content.

We now inform You that after all the Divisions among ourselves, We have now united our Minds as one which We hope when We come to important Matters will facilitate the Negociations between Us and You. Peter the Minister then sat down and Peter the Quarter Master arose and in a Speech informed them of a Robbery committed at their Castle at Canajoharie since they had attended the Treaty and described the Circumstances of the Robbery and exhorted his Tribe to Vigilence to detect the Perpetrators, and reminded them of what they were coming to.

On the 20th the Oneida Nation again attended the Commissioners at their Quarters and in Council the Governor addressed them as follows.

Brothers!

When We made our Speech to You on Monday, We informed You of what had taken Place between the Onondagoes and Us, and We also, informed You of the Reasons which had induced the Legislature to send Us to meet You at this Council Fire; We desired You to speak your Minds freely to us and to let us know what You supposed best to be done. You have made us an Answer, in which You have ex-

=pressed your Approbation of the Covenant entered in to between Us and the Onondagoes and especiall that it is a Covenant to endure forever. You mention to Us that a Voice had reached our Ears informing us that some of our People had without any Authority from us, obtained from You a Lease of your Lands and You request Us that We would first give our Advice and Sentiments as to the best Means for preventing the injurious Consequences which might arise from this Departure from the ancient Covenant between You and Us. Agreeably to your Request therefore We shall speak our Minds to You and We shall speak plainly. Our Regard for the Welfare of You and your Posterity and our Duty to our Constituents require that We should do so.

Brothers!

Listen with Attention and take Care that You understand us truly. The best Friends when they meet to agree on certain Matters which are intended for their mutual Good, sometimes seperate without coming to an Agreement, because they happen to mistake each other.

Brothers!

You ought to believe Us when We speak to You. We told You that We have as much your Good as our own for our Object; unleſs You can believe Us sincere in this Declaration, We shall find it very difficult and perhaps impoſsible to convince You of what will be best for You and your Posterity. People can never effectually aſsist each other, unleſs there is perfect Confidence between them.

Brothers!

Be not deceived in supposing that it was our Intention to kindle a Council Fire at this Time in Order to purchase Lands from You for our People. We have already more Lands than We have People to settle on them. If We had wanted Lands for our People to settle on, We would have told You so and requested You to have sold us some and would have paid You a reasonable Price for them.

Brothers!

You know that at former Treaties We advised You not to dispose of your Lands to any of our People unleſs they had a Licence from the Governor to make Bargains with You for your Lands. We then also mentioned to You that this was the ancient Usage and Regulation between your Forefathers and ours and that this Regulation was intended for your Benefit and to prevent Impositions on You, for that there were always wicked People among Us ready to cheat You out of your Lands unleſs We took Care of You and protected You against Frauds. We also informed You that We had confirmed this Regulation by our Constitution, and We desired You to acquaint us, whenever You were desirous to dispose of any Lands: You then told us, that You were glad to hear those things from Us, and thanked us for our good Advice to You, and promised to observe it. We are pleased to find by your Answer that You still remember these Things.

Brothers!

The Voice which You observed had reached our Ears, that some of our disorderly People had without any Authority from us, been among You, & obtained Leases from You for all your Lands, occasioned much Surprise and Grief to our great Council the Legislature; And the only Reason with them for sending Us to meet You at this Council Fire, was that We might here renew our ancient Covenant, and by a new Agreement place Matters on such a Footing as to prevent these Things for the future.

Brothers!

You will be sensible that it it is very difficult for us, in a very extensive Country to watch our People: They get at a Distance from Us and then privately make Bargains with You, without any Permission from Us. For this Reason We advised the Onondagoes to cede to Us all their Lands reserving to themselves a convenient Tract for their own Use and Habitation where none of our People should come to settle and of such Extent only that if any of our People should come there it would be immediately discovered. This Tract so reserved is not to be disposed of, but to remain to the Onondagoes and their Posterity forever. This appeared to Us and to them, the best Mean to secure it to their Posterity forever. Our People will know that they cannot get any Part of this Tract and therefore will not attempt it. This was our Advice to the Onondagoes, and We give You the same Advice. We are willing to pay You some Money and furnish You with some Clothing for your present Occasions, and as a Support to You and your Posterity, We are willing annually forever to furnish You with some Provisions and Clothing or make an annual Payment in Money instead of Provisions or Clothing, if You or your Posterity shall at any Time prefer it. We can not in this Speech state to You with Certainty the Amount of Money and Clothing to be given to You at this Time, or the Amount of the future annual Allowance as these will in some Measure depend on the Quantity of Lands which You may propose to be reserved to your own Use. We must therefore wait til You inform us how much Lands are to be reserved, and When You and We have agreed respecting that Matter, We will then let You know to what Extent we suppose our great Council can afford to give You at this Time, and allow You in future. What we have now proposed to You is all that We can do for You, and We are persuaded the Proposal is most for your real and permanent Interest. Unleſs You in this Manner secure some Support to Yourselves We fear your Nation will in a few Years be obliged to remove or perish, and it may not be in our Power to prevent it.

A String of 5 Rows.

Brothers!

You know We have a great many wicked People among Us, who will be constantly endeavouring to defraud You as long as You have Lands to dispose of. We shall always punish them severely whenever We detect them in such wicked and unlawful Practices. This however will be very troublesome and expensive to Us, and notwithstanding our Severity and Vigilence with our People, Yet you will still experience injurious Consequences. Consider what would be your Situation if We were not to take Care of You. You have given a Lease of your Lands and the People to whom You have given the Lease have promised to pay You an annual Rent. If We were to suffer them to come & settle on your Lands, they would soon be stronger than You, and if they should then refuse to pay the Rent, how will You compel them? If We were to suffer them to take Advantage of the Lease against You, You would then have parted with your Lands and have no Security that You will receive any Compensation. By this Time We suppose that You are sensible that You have not any Means in your Power to compel the Payment of the

Rent. These People at the Time they took the Lease knew that it was not in their Power to give You any Security and they also knew that You were ignorant of this Matter and suffered You to remain in Ignorance. Thus these People have deceived You, and Nothing but the Interposition of our Great Council the Legislature, can defend You against such Injuries. You will always be exposed to Impositions unless they protect You. Your whole Dependence must be on them, and it will not be in their Power to assist You unless You agree to what We have proposed to You. (A belt)

A Belt.

Upon which Good Peter rose, and after recapitulating the Substance of the Governor's Speech, he observed as follows:

"I need not on this Occasion descend to every particular in the Governor's excellent Speech, it is perfect in itself, and none of Us can find Fault with it.

"You observed, Governor, that the Design of this Council Fire was to remove the Confusion that had taken Place in our Landed Affairs (which has indeed become one continued Scene of Confusion and Disorder) and not to purchase Lands for your People, for that You had Lands enough and more than sufficient for the People You yet had to settle on them. We comprehend every Word of your Speech; it is true indeed, for We see You possessed of an exclusive Territory, and but here and there a Smoke. We thank You for your excellent Speech. You never can be charged with Falsehood.

Brother Governor attend while I speak a few Words.

In the Course of your second Speech equally excellent with your former; You observed that You had even in *your* Government, disorderly People who did not obey the Voice of their Chiefs. That therefore to avoid Confusion You were obliged to take our landed Affairs under your Care and Us under your immediate Protection. This I have experienced the Truth of; I have felt it. These People will continue to seek after our Lands, and if any one of them dies, another will pursue the same Object. This I have experienced the Truth of. We too have disorderly People in our Nation; You have a Keg here and they have their Eyes upon it, and Nothing can divert them from the Pursuit of it. While there is any Part of it left, they will have their Eyes upon it, and seek after it, till they die by it, and if one dies there is another who not detered by it, will still continue to seek after it. It is just so with your People. As long as any Spot of our excellent Land remains, they will covet it, and if one dies, another will pursue it, and will never rest till they poſseſs it. These disorderly People must bear their own Punishment.

Brothers!

You also observed in the Course of your Speech how often You had given Us good Council and warned Us against cunning and intriguing Men, that We should suffer by them. This is true. You have also disorderly Men: they are so shrewd, they come to our Fire Place, and make Us believe that they come out from the great Council of the State and thereby gain our Belief, and We listen to them and they deceive Us. It is so too with Us. You have a Keg here, and how often have some of our disorderly Men come to You and said the were sent by their Chiefs for a Part of it, and You have believed them and complied with their Request and have been also deceived.

I have made this Observation merely to shew that the whole Blame of being deceived on the present Occasion, ought not to lay upon Us.

Brother!

In the Course of your Speech, You have exhorted Us to look well for the Good of Posterity; That they were an Object of your Attention; Also that We should consider well what would be the Consequence of your abandoning Us to ourselves and leaving Us to Bargains We had made with some of your People, without your Authority and that We might in Time be plunged into such Difficulties that it might not be in your Power to give us Relief.

Brother!

I know the Truth of this Sentiment, that after repeated Warnings to a People, they may be given up as incorrigible.

Brother!

You have also repeatedly remarked that it was for our Good that You kindled this Council

Fire and the one at the German Flatts. But Brother hearken a Moment. It may be that these disorderly Men in your Government have occasioned both. They come to Us and tell Us, The one says give me a Piece here, another says give a Slice there; another says I am poor give me a Slice of Bread, and so they have bewildered our Minds, and thrown our Measures into Disorder.

Brother!

You may possibly think that your Brother the Oneida has no Consideration but it will take me a long Time to tell You all my Thoughts and Contemplations: They are extensive; my Mind is perplexed and pained, it labours hard. I expected when I returned to my Country to have sat down in Peace and enjoyed pleasant Days. I was even encouraged to hope this Brother from You from your own Declarations. You welcomed me home on my Return. The United States there planted the Tree of Peace with four Roots spreading Branches and beautiful Leaves whose Top reached the Heavens.

Brother!

I said that I was pained in my Mind. The Wind seems always to blow and shake this beloved Tree, this Tree of Peace. I fear that by and by some Twig of this beautiful Tree will be broken off. I love this Tree of Peace as my Life, and my Protection. I know You love it. I must request You to extend the Powers of your Government to punish these disorderly People. I know your Chiefs have Power and can do it.

Brother!

The Case is quite different with Us, our Powers are nominal; it is utterly vain to say these are the Chiefs. We Chiefs are trodden down and little ones arise above Us. I can say no more, for it would take me a long Time to express to You all my Thoughts. I therefore conclude by thanking You for the Advice You have given, and for all You have said to Us. I thank You particularly for informing Us that it is in your Power to punish all your disorderly People.

He then sat down and Colo. Louis arose and spoke as follows.

Brother!

You will now attend while We (alluding to himself and Peter Otsiquette, who stood by his Side) endeavour to adjust these Matters.

Brother Governor!

You are the Person who heretofore employed me (alluding to his being an Officer in the American Service). I am now employed by all here present to speak and set these Matters right, for I am charged with being the Person who have occasioned the present Distresses of this Nation. Upon the Return of Peace You told Us that the French Nation were your Brothers, and were to be considered in the same Light with You.

Brother!

I perfectly remember all your Words and all your Councils. You will also recollect them. You said I see over all your Land and shall by and by, secure it to You, and for this same Business have I myself been continually travelling backwards and forwards.

Brother Governor!

You councelled Us to Industry and Care, so that thereby We might be made happy in the Enjoyment of our Country, and not be going out here and there and wanting every thing. But Brother what shall we do. You have the Controul of our Land, altho it is said to be ours. Had You given Us a Writing to confirm it as our Property as the French Governor used to do, We should have been in the quiet Enjoyment of it. But now what shall We do to rectify Matters. We two are delegated in Behalf of the whole Nation, to measure out the Lands which We mean to reserve, and to divide that, not equally, between the meritorious and unworthy; this would not be right; but to give to each according to his Merits, and Standing in Life.

Brother!

We Oneidas, have a kind and generous Mind. We are disposed to live in Peace and Friendship. You have some good Men also among You, one wants a little Place, and We give it to him, another comes with the like Application, and We compassionate him also, and give him a Piece. This We do because We have a generous Mind.

Brother!

If You find in any Instance that We have done unjustly, let us not profit by it.

Brother!

I must insist upon your considering well the Proposals We shall make, so that We come to a fixed Agreement, and there be no Alteration or further Dispute upon the Subject. There are three Brothers of ours that must be established in their Settlements by You. The Tuscaroras in theirs, and the Stockbridge Indians in theirs; The third Brother who lives beyond the Stockbridge Indians, (alluding to the New England or Brotherton Indians) is like the White People: he has long Arms We gave him a large Piece of Land, and he was not contented with it. We contracted it, and he was not contented yet, and We then cut it off shorter and left him sufficient Still. He has now a Tract of three Miles by two. This let him enjoy, and secure it to him forever. We have Nothing further to do with him. (a)

Brother!

We never had any Part of the Land that Nation poſseſsed, not so much as one spoonful, so that We are under no Obligation to them. What we do for them is an unmerited Favor.

Brother!

I have said that We are of a generous Mind. We are disposed to do right, We are the Proprietors of our own Land. We shall depend upon having our Agreement reduced to Writing, and that it may be established forever, for We mean to settle Matters now once for all.

Brother!

There is one thing We have omitted We have marked the Lines of the Land We have given to our Brothers the Brothertown Indians, which we wish secured to them forever; and We now insist upon it that the old Writing which we gave them be delivered up at this Council, before We part.

Louis then sat down, and Peter Otsiquette addressed the Sachems and Warriors of his Nation, and requested Tenderness and Compassion towards him as a young Man, while he was speaking.

He told them that 4 Years ago at the Treaty at this Place at which the Marquis De la Fayette was present, The Marquis proposed taking one of his Sons of the Oneida Nation with him to France; That he with Reluctance left his Country, and his Companions, of whose Amusements and Diversions he was very fond, and undertook the Voyage; That it was unjustly reported that the Chiefs had sold him. That when he crossed the Great Water, the Marquis received him with Kindness; That he was naked and the Marquis clad him; that he was restless for a Year after he arrived in France but when Light or Knowledge flowed in on his Mind he felt distressed at the miserable Situation of his Countrymen that from want of Opportunity of acquiring

Knowledge they were so little informed of their true Interest.

Brothers!

Please now to open a candid Ear. After two Years more Residence in France, my Views were enlarged and I was distressed at the wretched Situation of my Nation, that they were no higher than the Shrubs, and I wished to return to endeavour to reform them, and did request the Marquis their Father, to let me come over to attend to the concerns of my Nation, as I did not mean to desert my Country.

While I was still in France, I heard frequently of the Situation of my native Country, and of the Conduct of many of our Chiefs & Warriors, that they began to cut their Land in Pieces, in one Part and another, and that they were divided among themselves, and each tenacious of his own Opinion, and I saw that their Ruin was approaching.

Brother Governor!

Let not this be done. Look back to former Days, when You first landed in New York. We then took You under our Protection. You were then small and We were great, and We are now sunk down even to your Ankles, while You are so risen that your Hands extend over the whole Island and reach the Stars.

Brother!

Pardon this puerile Speech; My Mind is young and not yet formed for Reasoning. I hope I shall encrease in Knowledge and attend to the Affairs of my Nation. He then sat down.

Upon which the Oneidas nominated a Committee of their Chiefs and Warriors to wit Odatsighte, Gaghsaweta, Shonoghleyo, Tekeandyakhon and Thaaghnyongo alias Big Bear, to advise and aſsist Colo. Louis and Peter Otsequette their Agents for settling the Terms of an Agreement with the Commiſsioners who spent the Evening with the Commiſsioners on that Busineſs.

In the Course of these Negociations they delineated their Boundaries & pointed out the Reservations they wished to make for themselves, to wit, "All the Lands on the North Side "of the Wood Creek and the Oneida Lake with a "very large Extent of Country on the South Side "of the Lake"

Whereupon the Governor by the Desire of the Commiſsioners, informed them that the Terms proposed by them would not be acceded to and by a Train of Reasoning attempted to convince them of the Impropriety of their reserving so large an Extent of Territory, and requested them to take the Matter into Consideration and to advise with their Nation on the Subject.

On Sunday Morning the 21st the Committee and Agents again attended the Commiſsioners at their Quarters, and introduced the Busineſs by informing the Commiſsioners that they were satisfied of the Impropriety of their reserving so large an Extent of Territory and declared that they were willing to give up the Lands on the North Side of the Wood Creek and the Oneida Lake on Condition that the Commissioners would agree to make a Compensation to Mr Penet out of it for his Benevolence and Services to them.

They then delineated a Tract they proposed to reserve to themselves on the South Side of the Lake to which the Commissioners continued to object on Account of its Extent.

After some Time spent in conversing on the Subject the Agents of the Oneidas expressed a Desire that the Governor and Commissioners would point out what they considered as a proper Reservation.

Which was immediately done by the Governor with the Advice of the Commissioners to wit, nearly the same with that described in the Deed of Cession except that the Commissioners insisted that the eastern Boundary of their Reservation should be "a South Line from the Confluence of "the Canada Creek and Wood Creek, instead of the "Line of Property, as was insisted on by the "Oneida Agents" but that for the Sake of Accomodation the Eastern Line as delineated in the Deed of Cession, was finally agreed to.

The Bounds of the Reservation being ascertained the Commissioners then conferred together and agreed upon the following Consideration to be given to the Indians, to wit, The Sum of two thousand Dollars in Specie two thousand Dollars in Goods and Clothing and one thousand Dollars in Provision to be paid down at the Execution of the Deeds and a Payment of six hundred Dollars annually forever which Offer was immediately communicated to the Oneida Agents and Committee who declined coming to a final Conclusion of the Agreement until they could advise with their Nation and departed for that Purpose.

Some short Time after they returned and informed the Board that their Nation acquiesced in all the Proposals made by the Commissioners except the annual Payment which they conceived too low and insisted it ought to be increased from six hundred to one thousand Dollars.

Whereupon the Governor after conferring with the Commissioners, informed the Agents and the Committee that the Commissioners could not consent to any increase of the annual Payment, but as the Business was so nearly compleated to our mutual Satisfaction the Commissioners as a farther Testimony of the Friendship of the State for their Brethren the Oneidas and a Regard for their Welfare & Happiness would consent to give them five hundred Dollars towards erecting a Grist-Mill and Saw-Mill at their Village.

This Proposition was readily agreed to with Marks of perfect Satisfaction and they requested the Commissioners to prepare the Deeds and their Nation would attend the next Morning to compleat the Execution of them.

On the 22nd the Oneidas attended the Commissioners at their Quarters. Previous to the Execution of the Deeds, Good Peter arose and addressed the Commissioners as follows.

"Let all here present attend while We the Oneidas open our Minds and You particularly Governor of the State of New York and your Chiefs with You attend!

We are this Day come together with our Pipes in Peace. We have been deliberating upon Matters of the greatest Importance respecting Us all here present. We now return You our Thanks Brother Chief that You have brought to a happy Close, the Business of this Treaty. My Nation are now restored to a Possession of their Property which they were in Danger of having lost. Had not my Father the French Gentleman discovered it We should have been drowned; had it not come to your Ears, We with all our Property would have been buried very deep in Ruin; therefore We do heartily congratulate You this Day upon having accomplished the Treaty and thereby secured to Us so much of our Property which would otherwise have been lost.

Brother Governor!

Now know our Minds; When our Business is compleated and We take Leave of each other whatever We have to say to You, We will always communicate to You through our Father the French Gentleman (pointing to Mr. Peter Penet) and We request that You'll make him the Channel of Communication of whatever You have to say to Us. He is a just and righteous Man; He will deceive Us in Nothing, but will always declare to Us the very Truth; had it not been for him We should have been ruined.

We know that You have entered into a firm Covenant and Alliance with our Father the French King and that You have one Heart and one Mind, which You have told Us often, and now We see it verefied

A String of six Rows black Wampum.

Brothers our Chief!

I now call for your Attention that You will in very deed open your Ears and hear our Speech. I have already congratulated You with the cordial Thanks of all the Nation that You my Brother of New York with my Father the French took Us hold by the Hand and drew us out of the War and now You see Us settled here in Peace.

Brother!

It is beyond a Doubt that the great Spirit above put it into the Mind of my Father the French to assist the injured and distressed in a critical Moment. You also my Brother have partaken of the Advantages of an Alliance with that Nation equally with us the Oneidas his Children.

As We have Nothing to give our Father the French Gentleman, but our

Mind and our Thanks, by this (presenting a Large Belt to Mr. Penet) We expreſs our Gratitude and return him the Thanks of our Nation.

Suffer me now to expreſs our Wish to both of You representing, as I may say Nations that You exert Yourselves to preserve the Friendship and strengthen the Alliance between You. I know that You have respectively that Power, and that Government which will bind Nations together. I also know that every Nation throughout the World is liable to Changes & Subversion, and it is poſsible that at some future Period the Evil Spirit may destroy this Connexion between You. It requires therefore your utmost Circumspection to preserve it.

Brother Governor with your Chiefs!

You are now continuing to hear as We close our Buſineſs from one Step to another. At our first Meeting our Minds seemed to be at a Distance but have perfectly united, and in that Union We respectively declared that We would fully unbosom ourselves to each other.

Brother with your Chiefs!

The Design of coming here with your various Speeches may be considered as precious Medicine to our disordered State; You have acted the Part of a very skilful Phisician You have already cured that which would have proved our Union with the Destruction of all our Property. Still there are some Pains and some Disorders which hang about us, besides that which You have healed; Even a Brother can not find out the Complaints of another, unless he inquires of the Causes.

Brother!

I just now observed to You that there were some internal Disorders among Us which have no immediate Relation to the one You have cured. Hear me while I mention one. In ancient Times the Oriska Tribe first settled near Old Oneida, but seeing a fine Field at Oriska, they removed there until the Line of Property was run. in that great Transaction which laboured for a long Time, I was present and at the Conclusion of it, it was declared that if any Lands to the Westward of that Line had been purchased by the White People, it should again revert to the Indians and on the other Hand if there should be any Fire Places or Settlements of Indians on the East Side of that Line they should be permitted to remain there as long as they pleased and when they removed they were to be permitted to Sell the Lands to the Extent of four Miles round each Settlement. We considered these Fire Places or Settlements of 4 Miles in Extent as the Property of the whole Nation and We never knew that our Ancestors had sold them. Now Brother We wish that You would inform Us what You know respecting this Transaction.

A String of three Rows White Wampum

The Governor then told him he would now only reply to what respected the Orisca Indians and when the Agreement was explained and executed by both Parties he would then make a short Answer to the Residue of his Speech.

The Governor observed that two different Applications had been made to him respecting those Lands, the first at the Treaty at this Place in 1784, and the last at the Treaty at Fort Herkimer in 1785, and that he promised to make Inquiry into that Business and had accordingly made himself acquainted with the Subject, and would now inform them respecting it.

That when he returned to New York he had searched the Secretary's Office and examined the Records; That he found a Licence from Goverment to Schuyler and others the Proprietors of the Oriskany Patent, to purchase those Lands from the Indians; That in Consequence thereof they were purchased of the Oneida Nation upwards of 80 Years ago, and the Deeds proved, deposited and recorded in the Secretary's Office;[a] That the Records of these Deeds had been shewn to a Committee of Indians who were with him at the Secretary's Office in New York some Years since; That from the Receipts upon the Deeds it would appear that the Purchase Money had been honestly paid and the Presumption was from the length of Time, that that was really the case.

That these Lands having been purchased

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from the Indians were granted by the late Colony to the Individuals who had so purchased them whose Property they now were.

That from the Nature of our Government Individuals holding Lands can not be divested of them without their Consent, that to take from a private Person what he had paid for would be contrary to our Ideas of Justice and Morality; that if the Lands had remained ungranted by the late Colony and belonged to the State it might be returned as a Matter of Favor to the Oneidas for the Accommodation of our Brethren the Oriska Indians who were settled on them but this not being the Case that the State could not interfere.

The Governor however promised to submit the Matter to the Legislature at their next Setting without encouraging them to hope that any Thing would be done.

In the Course of the Speech Good Peter attempted to shew that the Lands at Oriska were secured to the Indians, it being at that Time actually possessed by them. The Governor therefore in his Answer repeated the Substance of the Treaty respecting that Matter, and shewed that such Reservations extended only to Lands that were actually possessed and which had not been granted by the Indians, on the East Side of the Line of Property.

Good Peter then again addressed the Governor as follows.

Brother!

I have one Word more. I am exceedingly pleased with the Attention You have shewn to Us. I have but one Word; but what the others may say I know not. When the War was over, You laid Hands upon the Property of those who took Side with the King of Great Britain; these poor People of Orisca faught with You: We submit it to You whether it would not be reasonable to take some Care of them and let them poſseſs that small Spot of Land at Orisca.

The Governor again repeated that it was private Property and our Government could not take it away from the Proprietors but he would represent the Situation of the Indians at Orisca to the Legislature.

Good Peter then proceeded as follows I told You Brother I would mention to You all our Complaints. We have now one more. Our Nation many Years ago granted to the Sister of our Brother Schonondo a Piece of Land at the Indian Fields; she has since that Time removed to the Westward and she had wrote to her Brother to dispose of it and requested the Governor to inform them how that Matter was.

To which the Governor replied that this Matter was in the same Predicament with the former and when the one was, the other would be presented to the Legislature.

Then Good Peter sat down and Peter the Beech Tree rose and addreſsed the Commiſsioners as follows.

Brothers attend! and open a generous Ear!

You are here on Works of Righteouſneſs. You have corrected the Mistakes which have happened even as far back as Queder Corlaer. It concerns us on our Part also to do what shall be just in future and lay a Foundation for Righteouſneſs between Us. We have long beheld the hard Labor and Service of your Interpreter Mr Bleeker who stands here. He has served Us and You during the whole War he has always borne with Us patiently even when We have lived upon vexed him and eat up all his Property and yet he was patient with Us. We wish all here present to attend and hear what We say concerning him.

We Oneidas in the three Tribes give to him one Mile Square on the West Side of Dean's Lot and request You to confirm it to him notwithstanding any Agreement which may have been entered into between Us.

Good Peter again rose and said.

Brother!

There are some little Pimples yet that may maturate and become Boils if not healed in Time. It is wise therefore to take Notice of them.

Brother!

I must beseech You to exercise Patience as We have promised to communicate our Minds freely. Here is one of our Men (Hans Joost) who has obeyed your Voice and faught for his Country. Here is a Man (Genl. Gansevoort) who will bear Witness that he faught with him in yonder Fort (pointing to Fort Schuyler) He is a Cayuga by Birth His Request is that when You treat with that Nation You will preserve a Piece of Land for him on the West Side of the Cayuga Lake; the Extent thereof he submits to You.

To which the Governor replied that the Commissioners had not yet treated with that Nation but when they did they would attend to his Claim.

Good Peter then proceeded.

Brother!

One little Complaint more, as I have already observed You come with an excellent Medicine to make us whole. There are two Families of Onondago Extract (alluding to Captn. John's and another Family) who reside among Us: they are in the same Predicament with our Cayuga Brothers. They all but one refused to take any Money on your Settlement with the Onondagoes: they request that You will set apart a Piece of Land for them on the East Side of the Onondago Claim, so that they may be near Us and strengthen Us.

The Governor answered that the Com=

-missioners would attend to his Claim also.

Peter the Beech Tree then arose and observed that the Man who purchased German Town (naming Peter Hansenclever) had promised Money for those Lands which he never paid to them and requested to know how they were to obtain Satisfaction. He also requested to know whether any Answer had been received from the Governor of Pennsylvania about the Lands at the Cookhouse within his Line for which some Part of the Consideration Money had never been paid to his certain Knowledge. As to the former the Governor informed Peter it was a Transaction under the British Government of which he was ignorant and that Hansenclever was either dead or gone out of the Country; and as to the latter, he had received no Answer from the Governor of Pennsylvania.

The Governor then informed the Oneidas that he would reserve the Answer to that Part of their Speech which more immediately related to the Business of this Meeting, until the Writings were executed when he would deliver them his closing Address and present them with a Belt agreeable to their ancient Usage in Confirmation of the Agreement now entered into between Us.

The Deeds were then produced and

ecuted by the Parties respectively and delivered. The Consideration Money was counted down and the Goods and Provisions placed ready to be delivered to the Oneidas; but the Indians requested the Commissioners to take Charge of the whole till tomorrow Morning at which Time they promised that their Agents and Committee would attend to receive them.

The Deed being executed is in the Words following (a)

At a Treaty held at Fort Schuyler formerly called Fort Stanwix in the State of New York by his Excellency George Clinton Governor of the said State & William Floyd Ezra L'Hommedieu Richard Varick Samuel Jones Egbert Benson & Peter Gansevoort Junr. (Commissioners authorized for that Purpose by and on Behalf of the People of the State of New York) with the Tribe or Nation of Indians called the Oneidas it is on the twenty second Day of September in the Year one thousand seven hundred and eighty eight covenanted & concluded as follows.

First. The Oneidas do cede and grant all their Lands to the People of the State of New York forever.

Secondly. Of the said ceded Lands the following Tract to wit, Beginning at the Wood Creek opposite to the Mouth of the Canada Creek and where the Line of Property comes to the said Wood Creek and runs thence Southerly to the North West Corner of the Tract to be granted to John Francis Perriche, thence along the Westerly Bounds of the said Tract to the South west Corner thereof; thence to the North west Corner of a Tract granted to James Dean; thence along the Westerly Bounds thereof to the South west Corner of the last mentioned Tract; thence due South until it intersects a due West Line from the Head of the Tianaderha or Unadilla River; thence from the said Point of Intersection due West until the Deep Spring bears due North; thence due North to the Deep Spring; thence the nearest Course to the Caneserage Creek and thence along the said Creek the Oneida Lake and the Wood Creek to the Place of Beginning, shall be reserved for the following several Uses. That is to say, the Lands lying to the Northward of a Line parrallel to the Southern Line of the said reserved Lands and four Miles distant from the said Southern Line the Oneidas shall hold to themselves and their Posterity forever for their own Use and Cultivation but not to be sold leased or in any other Manner aliened or disposed of to others. The Oneidas may from Time to Time forever make Leases of the Lands between the said parrallel Line (being the Residue of the said reserved Lands) to such Persons and on such Rents reserved as they shall deem proper, but no Lease shall be for a longer Term than twenty one Years from the making thereof; and no new Lease shall be made until the former Lease of the same Lands shall have expired. The Rents shall be to the Use of the Oneidas and their Posterity forever; and the People of the State of New York shall from Time to Time make Provision by Law to compel the Lessees to pay the Rents and in every other Respect to enable the Oneidas and their Posterity to have the full Benefit of their Right so to make Leases and to prevent Frauds on them respecting the same; And the Oneidas and their Posterity forever shall enjoy the free Right of Hunting in every Part of the said ceded Lands and of Fishing in all the Waters within the same, and especially there shall forever remain ungranted by the People of the State of New York one half Mile Square at the distance of every six Miles of the Lands along the of Northern Banks of the Oneida Lake one half Mile in Breadth of the Lands on each Side of the Fish Creek and a convenient Piece of Land at the Fishing Place in the Onondago River about three Miles from where it issues out of the Oneida Lake and to remain as well for the Oneidas and their Posterity as for the Inhabitants of the said State to land and encamp on. But notwithstanding any Reservation to the Oneidas the People of the State of New York may erect public Works and Edifices as they shall think proper at such Place and Places at or near the Confluence of the Wood Creek and the Oneida Lake as they shall elect and may take and appropriate for such Works or Buildings Lands to the Extent of one Square Mile at each Place and further notwithstanding any Reservations of Lands to the Oneidas for their own Use, the New England Indians (now settled at Brotherton under the Pastoral Care of the Revd Samson Occom) and their Posterity forever and the Stockbridge Indians and their Posterity forever, are to enjoy their Settlements on the Lands heretofore given to them by the Oneidas for that Purpose that is to say a Tract of two Miles in Breadth and three Miles in Length for the New England Indians and a Tract of six Miles Square for the Stockbridge Indians.

Thirdly, In Consideration of the said Cession and Grant the People of the State of New York do at this Treaty pay to the Oneidas two thousand Dollars in Money two thousand Dollars in Clothing and other Goods and one thousand Dollars in Provisions; and also five hundred Dollars in Money to be applied towards building a Grist Mill and Saw Mill at their Village (the Receipt of which Monies Clothing and Goods and Provisions the Oneidas do now acknowledge) and the People of the State of New York shall annually pay to the Oneidas and their Posterity forever on the first Day of June in every Year at Fort Schuyler aforesaid six hundred Dollars in Silver but if the Oneidas or their Posterity shall at any Time hereafter elect that the whole or any

Part of the said six hundred Dollars shall be paid in Clothing or Provisions and give six Weeks previous Notice thereof to the Governor of the said State for the Time being then so much of the annual Payment shall for that Time be in Clothing or Provisions as the Oneidas and their Posterity shall elect and at the Price which the same shall cost the People of the State of New York at Fort Schuyler aforesaid, And as a further Consideration to the Oneidas the People of the State of New York shall grant to the said John Francis Perache a Tract of Land Beginning in the Line of Property at a certain Cedar Tree near the Road leading to Oneida and runs from the said Cedar Tree Southerly along the Line of Property two Miles; thence Westerly at right Angles to the said Line of Property two Miles; thence Northerly at right Angles to the last Course two Miles, and thence to the Place of Beginning; which the said John Francis Perache hath consented to accept from the Oneidas in Satisfaction for an Injury done to him by one of their Nation. And further the Lands intended by the Oneidas for John T. Kirkland and for George W. Kirkland being now appropriated to the Use of the Oneidas; the People of the State of New York shall therefore, by a Grant of other Lands make Compensation to the said John T. Kirkland and George W. Kirkland. And further that the People of the State of New York shall as a Benevolence from the Oneidas to Peter Penet and in Return for Services rendered by him to their Nation grant to the said Peter Penet of the said ceded Lands lying to the Northward of the Oneida Lake a Tract of ten Miles Square wherever he shall elect the same.

Fourthly, The People of the State of New York may in such Manner as they shall deem proper prevent any Persons except the Oneidas, from residing or settling on the Lands so to be held by the Oneidas and their Posterity for their own Use and Cultivation; and if any Person shall without the Consent of the People of the State of New York come to reside or settle on the said Lands or on any other of the Lands so ceded as aforesaid, except the Lands whereof the Oneidas may make Leases as aforesaid, the Oneidas and their Posterity shall forthwith give Notice of such Intrusions to the Governor of the said State for the time being. And further the Oneidas and their Posterity forever shall at the Request of the Governor of the said State be aiding to the People of the State of New York in removing all such Intruders and in apprehending not only such Intruders but also Felons, and other Offenders who may happen to be on the said ceded Lands, to the End that such Intruders, Felons and other Offenders may be brought to Justice.

In Testimony whereof, as well the Sachems, Chiefs, Warriors and others of the said Oneidas in Behalf of their Tribe or Nation, as the said Governor and other Commissioners of the People of the State of New York, have hereunto interchangeably set their Hands and affixed their Seals the Day & Year first above written.

Odàghseghte . . . . . X (L.S.) His Mark
Kanaghqweaya . . . X (L.S.) His Mark
Peter Otsiquette . . . . (L.S.) . . . his mark
Thàghniyongo . . . X (L.S.) His Mark
Thonigweaghshale . . X (L.S.) His Mark
Tekeandyakhon . . . X (L.S.) His Mark
Ogistalale alias Hanyurry . X (L.S.) His Mark
Otsetogon . . . X (L.S.) His Mark
Teyohagweanda . . . X (L.S.) His Mark
Oneyanha alias Beech Tree X (L.S.) His Mark
Thaghneghtolis alias Hendrick X (L.S.) His Mark
Thonoughleyo alias Anthony X (L.S.) His Mark
Thagtaghquisea . . . X (L.S.) His Mark
Kanaghsalilgh . . . . X (L.S.) His Mark
Gaghsaweda . . . . X (L.S.) His Mark
Teaghsweangalolis alias Paulus X (L.S.) His Mark
Agwelentongwas alias Domine Peter X (L.S.) His Mark
Joneghslishea alias Daniel . X (L.S.) His Mark
Thanigeandagayon . . . X (L.S.) His Mark
Olawistonis alias Blacksmith X (L.S.) His Mark
Keanyako alias David . . X (L.S.) His Mark
Kahiktoton . . . . . X (L.S.) His Mark
Sagoyontha . . . . . X (L.S.) His Mark
Hannah Sodolk . . . X (L.S.) Her Mark
Tekonghnihalk }
Hannwagatet . . } . . . X (L.S.) Her Mark

Kuskonoghquen }
Kanwagalet. } . . × L.S. Her Mark
Hononwayele . . × L.S. Her Mark
Shenondongh . . × L.S. His Mark

Geo: Clinton . . . . L.S.
Wm. Floyd . . . . L.S.
Ezra L'Hommedieu . . L.S.
Richard Varick . . . L.S.
Samuel Jones . . . L.S.
Egbert Benson . . . L.S.
Peter Gansevoort Jun. L.S.

Witnesses present.

The Words (and the Stockbridge Indians and their Posterity forever) after the third Word in the last Line of the second Article and also the Words (For the New England Indians And a Tract of six Mile Square for the Stockbridge Indians) at the End of the same Line & also the Words (two thousand Dollars in Money) in the first Line of the third Article and the Words (Except the Lands whereof the Oneidas may make Leases as aforesaid) in the third Line of the fourth Article being first interlined. . . . .

Before the Execution hereof the Oneidas in Public Council declared to the Commissioners that they had in Return for his frequent good Offices to them given to John I. Bleecker of the Lands reserved for their own Use, one Mile Square adjoining to the Lands of James Dean &

requested that the same might be granted and confirmed to him by the State.

Saml. Kirkland Missy & Interpreter.

J B: Chr. Dept. Trys	Samuel Latham Mitchell
Abrm. Rosencrantz	John Tayler
Simeon DeWitt Survr. Genl.	Wm. Colbrath

This Business being adjusted, the Governor addressed the Nation as follows.

Brothers!

We have now concluded the Business for which this Council Fire was kindled. Our Conferences have been public, so that every Person who chose might be a Witness and We have spoken our Minds freely to each other. The Result is a Covenant between Us; which We are happy to find from your Speech, is perfectly satisfactory to both Parties and for their mutual Advantage. We hope it will be faithfully observed by our Great Council, as well as your Nation and that it will endure forever. This Covenant is executed between Us in Form, by your and our setting our Hands and affixing our Seals to it, according to our Usage and We give You a Belt according to your Usage.

Brothers!

We have given You at this Time in Money Clothing and Provisions sufficient to answer your present Occasions. You have a very large Tract of Country for your own Use and Cultivation; You are to have the Rents of a very large Tract, and You are to be allowed by our Great Council to the Amount of six hundred Dollars annually forever. We also give You five hundred Dollars towards building a Grist Mill and Saw Mill for You: You have therefore more than sufficient for the comfortable Support of Yourselves and your Posterity if You are prudent and sober. If You have not Prudence and Sobriety, these very extensive Advantages reserved to You, will not secure You from Distress and possibly Ruin. Brothers! listen to our Advice.

Endeavour to take Care of Yourselves, be prudent, be sober. Do not suffer any of our People who lead disorderly Lives to come and reside among You. They will not only constantly defraud You, but they will also by their Example and Conversation make You as bad as they themselves are. If You are not able tel us know and We will oblige them to remove. Pay a due Respect to your Chiefs. Attend to the Advice of good Men in your own Nation, and observe such Regulations as they propose for preserving Peace and good Order among Yourselves; observe this Advice and You will enjoy all the Happiness which We sincerely wish to You and your Posterity. Brothers!

We are sensible of the Importance of our Alliance with the French. We shall always endeavour to preserve a strict Friendship with that generous Nation, and We are pleased to find that it is a Connexion agreeable to You. The mutual Communication between You and Us, shall always be in a Manner most agreeable to You.

Brothers!

I now deliver You a Belt in Confirmation of the present Covenant, and also of a perpetual Friendship between Us.

A Belt.

Brothers!

I now cover up this Council Fire and after smoaking a Pipe and drinking together, We will retire in Friendship to our respective Homes.

Before executing the Deeds, it was also declared in Council by the Oneidas that Archibald Armstrong possessed a Mile Square at the Mouth of Canada Creek, one half of which would now be on our Side of the Line; that they had agreed to leave him for 21 Years clear of Costs on their Part and requested the State to do the like on their Part.

The Oneida Indians having expressed a Desire that the five hundred Dollars in Specie, this Day stipulated to be paid to them, as Part of the Consideration Monies, for the Lands ceded by them to the People of the State of New York to be applied towards building a Grist Mill and Saw Mill at their Village should be left in the Care of the Commissioners or such Persons as they should appoint to be paid on the Order of the Governor; It was thereupon Resolved that the same be deposited in the Hands of John Tayler Esquire Agent to the Commissioners to be paid and applied in Manner aforesaid.

The Money was accordingly paid by Mr. Varick to Mr. Tayler in the Presence of the Commissioners and, a Duplicate of the Commissioners Resolution for that Purpose and of Mr. Tayler's Receipt of this Date of this Date thereon indorsed, was delivered in full Council to the Agents of the Oneidas.

The Governor then by the Advice of the Commissioners presented a Fowling Piece to Ogistodale the Young Sachem, who had been presented to the Commissioners as Successor to the Grass Hopper.

The Board having found it expedient in their Negociations with the Oneidas to propose such a Boundary for the Lands to be reserved to their Use as would also include the Lands heretofore given by them to John T. Kirkland and George W. Kirkland and the Oneidas declining to assent to such Proposal, without a Stipulation by the Board that the Legislature would by a Grant of other Lands compensate the said John T. Kirkland and George W.

Kirkland. A Stipulation for that Purpose was accordingly at the Request of the Oneidas inserted in the Instrument of Cession from them and the Revd. Samuel Kirkland having at this Treaty rendered meritorious Services to the State and some of the Oneidas having expressed to his Excellency the Governor, a Disinclination to make a Cession of all their Lands without a Benevolence to Mr. Kirkland for his pastoral Care of them for many Years, the Board having conceived it requisite to give them Assurances that they would recommend it to the Legislature to grant to Mr. Kirkland two square Miles adjoining to the Lands to be granted to his Children. Therefore,

Resolved as the Sense of the Board that it be recommended to the Legislature to grant to the said John T. Kirkland and George W. Kirkland, in Lieu and Compensation of the said Lands heretofore given to them, each a Mile Square and to the said Samuel Kirkland two square Miles the whole to be contiguous, forming a Square of two Miles, and to be bounded on the Line of Property and adjoining to the Southern Bounds of the Lands granted to Col. Wemple.

N.B. A Copy of this Resolution signed by all the Commissioners was delivered to Mr. Kirkland.

The Board deeming it expedient to forward a Messenger into the Cayuga Country to invite their Chiefs and those of such of the

Seneca Tribes as are connected with them to meet the Commiſsioners in Order to effect an Agreement with them respecting their Lands; It was resolved that Mr. Kirkland be employed for this Purpose and that Instructions be prepared for his Conduct which was done and signed by the Governor and are in the Words following.

Sir,

On your Arrival in the Country of the Cayugas, You will take every Opportunity of explaining to the Chiefs of that Nation, the Nature of the Settlement which has taken Place with the Onondagoes and Oneidas, and to impreſs upon their Minds the absolute Neceſsity of their coming to some similar Settlement with Us, and to this End to invite them to attend at New York this Fall or at Albany early next Winter, It is unneceſsary to particularize to You the Reasons to be urged to induce the Indians to a Compliance, as You have heard them repeatedly at the present Treaty. It is sufficient to observe that the Peace of the State and the Existence of these Indians as a People depend on coming to some permanent Agreement respecting their Lands with the State so as effectually to frustrate the Designs of a Set of disorderly White People who have lately intruded among them for wicked Purposes.

As a small Part of the Lands of the Senecas is supposed to lie East of the Line of Ceſsion to the Maſsachusetts it is the Wish of the Commiſsioners that the Chiefs of the Tribes connected with the Cayugas may be informed of the Nature of our Settlement with the Oneidas and Onondagoes, and that a sufficient Number of the Chiefs of such Tribes to transact this Buſineſs should attend with the Cayuga Chiefs; but as the latter Object is small We cannot be justified in putting the State to any considerable Expence to procure the Attendance of the Senecas. If the Indians can come to New York the Commiſsioners think it would be best for them to paſs by the Way of Esopus.[1]

The Commiſsioners rely upon your Attachment to the Interest of the State, and trust much to your Prudence in the Execution of this Buſineſs; I have therefore only to add that I am with great Reſpect

Sir,

Your most obed^{t}. Serv^{t}.

Geo: Clinton.

Fort Schuyler
21st Sept^{r}. 1788

The Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Samuel Kirkland.

M^{r}. Kirkland being paid for his Services as Interpreter and furnished with Proviſions for his Journey set out immediately for the Cayuga Country.

The Commiſsioners then also resolved that M^{r}. Varick pay to M^{r}. Taylor the Sum of one thousand three hundred Pounds to be applied by him for the Purpose of paying for Provisions and other Necessaries for the Treaty at this Place, for which Sum he is to be accountable to the People of the State of New-York.

The Commissioners then delivered to Mr. Varick a Certificate that he had by Order of the Board paid to the Onondago Indians the Sum of thirteen hundred and seventy eight Dollars on the twelfth Instant and to the Seneca Indians the Sum of forty one Dollars and five Shillings on the sixteenth instant and to the Oneida Indians on this Day the Sum of two thousand Dollars which three Sums in the whole amount to three thousand four hundred and nineteen Dollars and five Shillings.

The Remainder of this Day was spent in auditting and adjusting the Claims of the Inhabitants of this Place for Damages sustained and other Accounts for Articles furnished and Services performed and in making Preparations to set out for Albany the next Morning.

On the 23d. Day of September the Agents & Committee of the Oneidas attended agreeable to Appointment to whom the Money, Goods and Provisions were duly delivered and Waggons provided to transport the same to their Camp; When it being about 8 O.Clock A.M the Commissioners embarked on Board of Batteaux for Albany, where they arrived on the 25th.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners at the House of John Tayler in the City of Albany on Friday the twenty sixth Day of September 1788.

Present

His Excellency the Governor

William Floyd	Samuel Jones
Ezra L'Hommedieu	Egbert Benson
Richard Varick	Peter Gansevoort Junr.

The Accounts of John I Blecker who had acted as Commissary of Provisions, and as one of the Interpreters to the Commissioners, and Captn. John Thornton who was sent into the Indian Country with the second Letter from the Commissioners adjourning the Treaty till the 1st. Day of September and inviting them to attend at that Time, and who was also employed in other Services with some other Accounts were audited and adjusted.

The Board also took into Consideration the Allowance to be made to John Tayler their Agent, for his Services: Whereupon it was Resolved that he be allowed a Commission of five Pr. Ct. upon all the Sums of Money by him received and expended in the Course of his Agency; and an additional Sum of fifty Pounds as a Reward for his Care and Services in effecting a Meeting of the Indians with the Commissioners and while attending the Treaty.

It was further Resolved by the Board that Mr. Varick pay to Mr. Taylor the Sum of four hundred Pounds to be applied by him for the Purpose of paying for Provisions and other Neceſsaries for the Treaty at Fort Schuyler for which Sum he is to be accountable to the People of the State of New York.

It was also determined that it would be most expedient for the Governor and Commiſsioners who were returning with him to New York, to hire a Sloop for their own Accomodation that they might with the greater Conveniency employ their Time on the Paſsage in arranging the Papers and compleating their Minutes.

Captn. Garret Ryckman's Sloop was accordingly engaged, on Board of which the Governor and Meſsrs. Floyd L'Hommedieu Varick and Jones embarked at 4 O.Clock P.M.

At a Meeting of the Commiſsioners on Board of Captn. Ryckman's Sloop on Monday the twenty ninth Day of September 1788.

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton
William Floyd } { Richard Varick &
Ezra L'Hommedieu } { Samuel Jones.

Resolved that Mr. Varick be requested to have the Minutes transcribed in a proper Book to be by him provided for that Purpose and that he deliver the same to his Excellency the Governor to be by him laid before the Legislature.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners
at the House of Richard Varick in the
City of New York on Tuesday the fourth
Day of November 1788.

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton
John Lawrance }
Richard Varick } & { Samuel Jones

Resolved, that the Board deem it proper that the Sum of five thousand Pounds be drawn from the Treasury for the Purposes of making Purchases from the Cayuga and Seneca Indians of their Lands lying between the Western Bounds of the Lands lately ceded by the Onondagoes to the People of the State of New York and the Eastern Boundary Line of the Lands ceded by this State to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and for discharging the Contingent Expences of holding a Treaty or Treaties with those Indians for that Purpose and that his Excellency the Governor draw that Sum by Warrant payable to Richard Varick one of the Commissioners.

All which is respectfully reported to the Legislature, at Albany this 11th. Day of December 1781.

Geo Clinton

Peter Gansevoort Junr.

Samuel Jones

John Laurance

Ezra L'Hommedieu

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A Continuation
# of the
Proceedings of the Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians within this State, containing

Their Negotiations with the Cayuga Nation &c.ª &c.ª

At a Meeting of the Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians within this State. at the House of John Taylor in the City of Albany on the 15th. Day of December 1788.

Present His Excellency Governor Clinton
Ezra L'Hommedieu
John Lawrence
Peter Gansevoort Jun.r &
Samuel Jones

The Reverend Samuel Kirkland having returned from the Westward made his Report verbally to the Commissioners

Commissioners, and they desired him to reduce the same to writing. After Mr Kirkland retired — The Governor ~~then~~ communicated to the board a Letter from Peter Ryckman and Seth Reed which is in the words following to wit,

Canadasaga 7th October 1788

Sir

This will be handed you by Mr Lee & Noble two Gentlemen from Massachusetts who have been at this place the most of the Summer past & as they have been particularly knowing to the transactions of the people on this ground we have requested them to wait on your Excellency and know whether the Seneca and Kayuga Nations of Indians are wanted at Albany or any other place to hold a Treaty with them in the course of this winter or not, if that should be the case we are confident that we shall be able to procure any number of those nations or any particular persons that should be named among them to meet the commissioners at any place that they should propose. Had we been directed by the commissioners to go to Fort Schuyler with the Indians at the Treaty lately held there we should been able to brought them without any great trouble; any contract that those gentlemen shall make respecting the Indians we shall do our best to fulfill. The Inclosed is a small part of what has been said by Colo Mackinster and others respecting the Leases &ca we are your Excellency's most Obedient and very humble Servts Peter Ryckman
To Excellency George Clinton Esquire Seth Reed

The Substance of the Information given by Mr Kirkland taken from his Journal is as follows to wit that he arrived at Canadasega the 30th of September that he mett a number of the Seneca and Cayuga Nations some approving and others being Jealous of the Treaty held at Fort Schuyler. _ That they had been kept in a Continual State of Intoxication & disipation for three weeks to prevent their going on to the Treaty. _ That Dr B & Colo. M. had between twenty and thirty Riflemen in Arms for twenty four hours and gave out severe Threats against P. Rikeman and Colo Reed for being Enemies to their party and friends to the Government, in persuading the Indians to attend the Treaty at Fort Schuyler and they were ordered off the ground or to abide the Consequences. _ That he Communicated to a number of the Seneca and Cayuga Nations the Treaties made with the Onondagos and Oneidas at Fort Schuyler which the Governess of Genesee confirmed. _ That on the 13th he set off for Genesee were he arrived the next day and visited the Big-tree at his Village and fixed the Stake for the southern Line of Mr Phelps purchase at the forks of the Genesee set up by the Surveyors (being previously requested thereto by the Indians). _ That on the 10th found that Threats had been given out against the Onondago Chiefs Black Cap and Kayaghtotten by the Onondagos residing at the Buffaloe Creek on a supposition of their having no part of the Consideration for the Sale of the Onondagos Lands at the late Treaty, and blamed the Governor in that Negociation. _ That in a Formal address he vindicated the Conduct of the Governor

and

Commissioners explained to them fully the principles of the Treaty and that their Jealousies had arisen from a misrepresentation.. This Speech (for which they thanked him produced the desired Effect the Indians being perfectly convinced and satisfied.. That he found it necessary to proceed further westward and on the 22d arrived at Niagara where he found the Infant with his Company and waited on Colo Butler from whom he received every necessary information respecting the dispositions of the Indians. That Colo Butler advised that if the Intended Treaty at Albany should not succeed it would be best to have one at Canadasaga or Buffaloe Creek and that two or three Commissioners might answer the purpose .. That on the 25th he left Niagara and travelled on foot to meet a Chief called Shendyoughgwatti the second man of Influence among the Senecas of Buffaloe and had a Conversation with him to good purposes as he supposes. The next morning he reached the Capital Village on the Buffaloe where the chief Sachem called the Farmers-brother Alias Oghnewigewas assembled the Onondagos and Cayugas to whom he delivered the Message and held a Council which was again opened the next morning; when to remove their difficulties and reflections respecting the late Treaty as partial he made an addition to the Governors Invitation Belt by informing them that it was the Governors Intention to have had a general

Treaty that they had timely notice of it that he was equally concerned for their good and incase their Chiefs did not return from Muskingum by January he would meet them at any place they should Chose from Albany to Buffaloe Creek the next Spring or Summer.. The Onondagoes were soon united in favour of the State and had the ascendency in Council.. The Cayagas there had no Voice in Council but expressed their approbation (by reason of the late death of their Chief Tegacager) all matters being adjusted with great peace and unanimity the Farmers Brother delivered three Strings for the Governor approving of his Message .. The next day at the Genessee Village in both places he informed the Chiefs and Warriors present of all that had passed at Buffaloe Creek he then went to the Big Tree by whom he was addressed in the presence of the Warriors in a Speech favorable to the views of the State and mentioned that there was a general expectation of the Indians + holding a Treaty the ensuing Spring if the same should not take place in the winter

At a Meeting of the Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians within this State at the House of John Taylor in the City of Albany on the 16th day of December 1788

Present His Excellency ~~the~~ Governor Clinton
Ezra L'Hommedieu - - -
John Laurence - - -
Peter Gansevoort Junr
Samuel Jones - - - - - - -
} Esquires

The board having taken into consideratio the Information received yesterday from Mr Kirkland and the Letter from Ryckman and Reed - Resolved that it is the opinion of the Board that it is proper to accede to the propositions of the said Peter Ryckman and Seth Reed and that a Letter be written to them desiring them to bring a national representation of the Cayuga Indians to this place as soon as may be practicable and that the board will recommend them to the bounty of the Legislature for their Services.- And a Letter to the said Ryckman and Reed and a Message were accordingly prepared and agreed to which are in the words following to wit

Gentn

I have laid Mr Reads and your Letter of the 7th October last before the Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians residing within this State. They agree to your proposals and desire you will bring a National Representation of the Cayuga Indians to this place as soon as may be practicable. It is the wish of the board that the Representation may be as numerous as can be procured and they will recommend to the Legislature to make a suitable

Compensation for your Services in this Business besides their Engagement of Defraying the Expences you may be put to in bringing the Indians to this Place. Inclosed is a Speech to the Cayuga nation from the Commissioners, which you will be pleased to communicate to them. You will be pleased to provide a proper Belt to deliver with the Speech. You will perceive by the Speech that it is the wish of the Commissioners that the Indians should be here by the middle of the Month of January as it is probable that after that time a Sufficient number of Commissioners to form a Board may not be at this place. If any circumstance should intervene to prevent your accomplishing the Business committed to you at the time before mentioned you will give me the earliest Information which you will have an opportunity of doing by the Return of your son who is the bearer of this Letter

Vide the Draft of the Speech alluded to in the above Letter

I am &ca
Geo. Clinton

At a Meeting of the Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians within this State at the House of John Taylor in the City of Albany on the 10th day of december 1700

Present

His Excellency the Governor Clinton
Ezra L'Hommedieu
Peter Gansevoort Junr.
& Samuel Jones } Esquires

The Governor laid before the Board the Account of the Reverend Mr. Kirkland for his Services & Expences on his Journey among the Indians to the westward Amounting to thirty five pounds ten Shillings and nine pence. Ordered that Mr. Taylor pay the same.

The Governor also laid before the Board a memorial of the said Mr. Kirkland praying the Commissioners agreeably to the Encouragement by them given to him to recommend to the Legislature to grant to him in Consideration of his Services an Addition to the Lands stipulated to be given to his Sons Thereupon Resolved that it be recommended to the Legislature to grant to him a tract of Land of one third of a mile in breadth on the upon the side of the Land to be granted to his said Sons and extending from the line of property to the lands reserved for the Oneidas and also a Gore of land lying between the same and the said Lands to be granted to his Sons and the Lands reserved for the Oneidas

Ordered that a Copy of the aforegoing Resolution signed by the Commissioners be delivered to Mr. Kirkland

Ha-

At a Meeting of the Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians within this State Albany January 3^d. 1789

Present
His Excellency ~~the~~ Governor Clinton
M^r. L'Hommedieu
M^r. Jones &
M^r. Benson

It appeared to the Board that there is a ballance of One Hundred and fifty three pounds two Shillings and Eight pence half penny due to John Taylor the agent appointed by the Board Thereupon resolved that M^r. Varick of the Monies drawn by him from the Treasury on the last warrant from the Board pay to M^r. Taylor the Sum of One Hundred and fifty three pounds two Shillings and Eight pence half penny the Amount of the ballance aforesaid.

Here Ends the Report of the first Board of Commissioners

Geo: Clinton
Egb^t. Benson
Peter Gansevoort Jun^r.
Ezra L'Hommedieu

The Authority of the Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians within this State expired thirty days after the present Meeting of the Legislature and both houses had formed a Quorum to wit on the 11th day of December last

On the 23d. Day of January the Governor received a Letter by James Manning Reed from Peter Ryckman and Seth Reed in the Words following towit,

Sir/

Canadasega January 13th. 1789

We recd your Letter of the 16 last by the bearer of this who arrived at this place 31st december and agreeably to your Excellency's request your Message was laid before the Indians and after their mature deliberation thereon they desired us to inform you in writing that they accept of your Invitation and will move on for Albany as fast as possible but as you requested the earliest Information of their Intentions we have sent my son James Manning Reed with two Indians to forward this with all possible speed which we hope will go safe to your hand. _ The Indians will not be at Albany as soon as you proposed but will be there by the 25th instant if not prevented by some designing men who we are told propose taking and confining any person who is aiding the Indians to Albany. The head of the party is one Smith of the German Flatts on the Mohawks river; but by whose Instigation they do this we can only imagine. The Indian interpreters Wemp Smith and Jones together with what Leeses there are on the ground — have been exceeding busy to keep the Indians from going to the Treaty and have kept them so intoxicated with Liquor that it was almost impossible to do business with them but notwithstanding all we think there will be a full representation of the Cayuga Nation and a number of the Sachems of the Senakes

We are your Excellency's most Obedient humble Servants

Peter Ryckman

Seth Reed

Excellency George Clinton Esquire

Ps

I should myself waited on your Excellency and the Board with the Indians but the indisposition of body prevents me .. there is inclosed the sayings and doings of Mr Mickinstrey and Mr — Livingston I shall refer you to Mr Ryckman who was present in their Council with Wilkenson and myself on the twenty ninth day of November 1787 — also he is knowing to all the circumstances respecting the Conduct of Mickinstrey the Summer past. I have given Mr Ryckman a power to act in my behalf and I beg your Excellency's Influence for a reasonable Compensation in Lands in this Country for my Services; and at the same time hope you will not be prejudiced against a person you never saw for the hearsays which I am told have been propagated by a certain Chapman and others

I am your Excellency's most
Obedient humble Servant
Seth Reed

In Consequence of the Information contained in the above Letter;.. The Governor took the necessary Measures to have the Indians supplied with provisions, to facilitate their Journey, and to prevent their being obstructed or retarded on their way and for these Purposes dispatched Messengers to meet them. Capt. Thornton proceeded as far as Anondago — where he met them and found they had been much delayed by one of their [illegible] Chiefs taken sick on the Road and after giving them such Assistance as was in his power he returned to Albany on the 20th of Jan.y and made his Report.—

On the 11th Day of February Mr Peter Ryckman arrived in Albany with 20 Indians and Women and the same day waited upon the Governor, at the Request of the Indians to appologize for their not paying their Respects to him immediately, and to desire that they might be excused a day or two to refresh themselves after so long a Journey before they entered on Business

At a Meeting of the Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians within this State at Dennistons Tavern in the City of Albany the 12th day of February 1789 Pursuant to a Law passed the present Session of the Legislature —

Present
His Excellency Governor Clinton
Lieutenant Governor Van Cortlandt

Egbert Benson —— John Hathorn —— Ezra L'Hommedieu Peter Gansevoort Junr & Samuel Jones ——	Esquires

The following Chiefs and Warriors of the Cayuga Nation with a number of Women attended to wit

Hawistawg alias	Steel Trap
Teen har yawgo.	Logan Two
Kaan Nanngga	Two rows of poles with Indian Corn
To Hong leaga	Black Ear
Tan nen eh a kea	Arms Leans
Tat de we menne	Talks and goes on
Kawn yegh taw.	Fall from the Skey
Aw Hoot in gos . . .	Smoke Strikes against
Saw googh hay.	Gives his goods away.
Kawwin nawg	he talks
Teyaw wint lawho —	day appears
Tan Yoc is	Sky Breakes

Haughtetten an Onondaga Chief and
Toneaignas — a Seneca Chief also attended

The Company being seated Toneaghas the Seneca Chief addressed the Governor and Commissioners as follows.—

Brothers of the State of New York and of the United States we are not very strong but we have always been good friends to the people of Albany.—

Brothers. At the late Council Fire at Fort Stanwix you sent a Belt to the Senecas and Cayugas to come to a Council Fire; and some of the Senecas and Cayugas immediately concluded to come to Albany for that purpose.

Antiently when the Six Nations were in a situation it was usual with them to consult together; but they are now so scattered as to render such general Consultation impracticable we have therefore called on Kaughtotten an Oneida to come with us to be a Witness at this Treaty; and we have also requested some of the Oneidas to come and it would be most agreeable to us that the Treaty was postponed until some of the Oneidas should arrive as they are expected. The Invitation Belt was then returned as usual

To which the Governor made the following Answer

Brothers your Brothers the great Council of this State have by us their Commissioners kindled a Council Fire at Fort Schuyler last

Year at which we invited all our Brethern of the six Nations. our Brethern the Oneidas and Onondagas attended and we were sorry that it was not convenient for our Brethern the Senecas and Cayugas to come we are notwithstanding very glad to see you at this place where our Council Fires were anciently kindled and thank the great Spirit that he was protected you on the way

Brothers
We are sensible that it was formerly the Custom for the six Nations to attend at Council Fires and consult together. We know several of your people have died since we were last together however let these things be no longer remembered. We approve of your asking our Brother Kaightotten of Oniondaga to come along and also that you have requested some of the Oneidas to come and as soon as they arrive we shall enter on the Business of the present Treaty.

To which the Indians made the following Reply.

Brothers

You are acquainted with our ancient Customs of the six Nations when they were in prosperity their ancient Usage was this viz at the opening of a Treaty the party invited returning the invitation String by an introductory Speech to open the Eyes that they may see clearly and if they have sustained loss a Misfortune to wipe the Tears from their Eyes; also to open

their

(184)

their Ears and hear distinctly and remove all Obstructions from the Mind. Brothers Chiefs of the People of Albany by this String we perform the ancient custom of our Fathers and we thank the great Spirit who hath given us this opportunity to smoke our Pipes together in peace at Albany

A String of three Rows

At a Meeting of the Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians within this State held at [illegible] in the City of Albany the 14 day of February 1789

Present
His Excellency George Clinton
Lieutenant Governor Van Cortlandt

Ezra L'Hommedieu
Abraham Ten Broeck
Samuel Jones
Peter Gansevoort Junr.
Egbert Benson
John Hathorn } Esquires

James Bryan and Benjamin Barton both of whom are two of the Persons of the Association distinguished by the Appellation of the New York Genesee Company appeared upon the Invitation and delivered up to be cancelled a writing purporting to be a Lease from the Chiefs or Sachems of the Six Nations of Indians to John Livingston Caleb Benton Peter Ryckman John Stevenson and Ezekiel Gilbert and their Associates

S.

a writing purporting to be a Lease from the sachems, chiefs and Warriors of the Oneida Nation of Indians to John Livingston, Caleb Benton and Ezekiel Gilbert and their Associates. Copies of which Writings are entered on the Journals of the Assembly of the last Sessions; also a Writing signed by a Number of Indians & dated the ninth day of July last and purporting to be a release from some of the sachems, chiefs and Warriors of the six Nations of Indians of a part of the consideration money and a part of the rent mentioned in the said writing first above mentioned and a confirmation as to certain of the Lands therein mentioned.

Resolved that the said three Writings so received by the Board and by the Legislature shall be and are hereby directed to remain with the Secretary of the Council until the further order of the Board.

Resolved that his Excellency the Governor be requested to communicate in a Message to the Legislature the proceedings of the Board relative to the above transaction.—

Ordered that Mr. [illegible] the agent of this Board take order for the subsistance of such Indians as have or shall come to this place to attend the intended Treaty.

His Excellency the Governor communicated to the Board the substance of an informal Conference which had taken place between him and the principal Cayuga Indians since the last meeting in the following words, to wit,

Brothers

The reasons which induced me to kindle a Council Fire last Summer at Fort Stanwix were that I was Informed that our White people had got among our Brethorn of the six Nations, and were buying their Lands Contrary to our Laws and the ancient usage that had subsisted between us. My Invitation was to all the Six Nations, and I wished to see them all there + + to consult on matters of great Importance to their Interest & to our mutual happiness. That on being informed that they were invited to a Treaty at Muskingum I postponed kindling the Council Fire for near three months, in hopes, that they might have time to return and attend

The Oneidas and Onondagas however only appeared at the Council Fire; on Inquiry of them I found that all I had heard before was too true that some of our Bretherrn of the six Nations held different Treaties and particularly last Spring at Buffaloe creek with some of our white people and had sold or Leased all their Country to them; --In this situation it was necessary that some thing should be done to prevent the Evils which might result both to them and to us from this Transaction and come to some lasting agreement that would prevent their being imposed upon in future. It was difficult to determine what was best to be done we consulted together many days and considered of theſe matters; at length an Agreement took place between us and the Oneida and Onondaga Nations that they should cede their – respective Countries to this State; that a part of each sufficiently large for their use and occupation should be reserved for each Nation which should ++ remain to them, and their posterity for ever – without the power of selling any part of it, to – any white people. That in Consideration of this Ceſsion we paid them a sum of money and agreed – that they should have free fishing and hunting throughout their Country as heretofore: And because we knew that as the white people settled upon the Lands, both to the westward, and southward the hunting would be injured and grow leſs valuable and that they would not be able to support themselves by it, we agreed to pay them a sum every year either in money goods or provisions to help to support them and their Women and Children – This Brothers is a short account of the Agreement which took place between us and the Oneidas and Onondagas, and it was the only measure that could be devised to relieve them from the disagreeable Situation they had brought themselves into, and prevent future Miſchiefs. I thought it neceſsary to mention these matters to you before we entered formally upon Buſineſs that you might consider and understand well the buſineſs for which we kindled the Council Fire at this place. and be able to make up your mind upon the subject and determine whether you are disposed to –

to enter into a similar Agreement on the part of your nation and if so, whether you are such a Representation as to have sufficient power to do it.

Brothers

I do not wish an immediate Answer; I wish you to consider and understand Matters well, for I know no Agreement, can be lasting that is not well understood by both parties; but as I have been a long time from home and it is in your hunting time I should be glad that the busineſs might meet with as little delay as poſsible.

To which the Indians made the following Reply,

Brother

We are very happy to hear what you have said, we do not intend at this time to say much upon the subject, it makes our hearts rejoice to hear the things which our, Brother the Governor has mentioned, we will go and consult all our people both men and women and we will give you an answer to morrow or next day, We are sensible that what you have told us is true, for we have seen thoſe white people already taking poſseſsion of our Lands at Canadeseya. It made our hearts sink within us, to see our women and Warriors deprived of their Country, as if our God had forsaken us, Brother Governor we thank you very heartily for what you have told us.

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At a Meeting of the Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians within this State at Dennistons Tavern in the City of Albany the 17th Day of February 1789.

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton

Abraham Ten Broeck }
John Hathorn } Esquires
Ezra L'Hommedieu & }
Peter Gansevoort Junr. }

Indians

Kaistotox alias Steel Trap
Tonaghtoga
Conighawga
Tonoghtidu Black Ear
Kanyoswa

Tonoghas Seneca Chief
Kaighttotten Onondaga Chief
Colonel Louis an Oneida.

The Chiefs desired Mr Ryckman to inform the Governor and Commissioners, that they had now attended and brought with them Kaighttotten of the Onondagow and Colonal Lowis from Oneida, and they wished to hear some thing now on the Business of the Treaty in their presence, before they give a final Answer, this they will consider however as an informal Business and mere confidential conversation for the Information of both parties.

Whereupon the Governor again explained to them the reasons for kindling the Council Fire at Fort Stanwix last Summer and repeated the substance of the

Agreements entered into with the Oneidas and Onondagas at the late Treaty, nearly in the words of the laſt informal Communication between him & the Indians; which was reported to the Board at the laſt meeting. He also explained to them the reasons for reserving to the Oneidas a larger Tract of Land for their use than that reserved for the Onondagas, to wit, because the former Nation were 273/R more numerous, and also more contiguous to the white people of course their hunting would be sooner injured by the settlements of the white people, he also produced to the Indians the Leases surrendered to the Board by the New York Genesee Company and added, Brothers I expect you will inform us whether you are such a Representation of your Nation, as, that you can enter into such a Treaty with us as we have made with the Oneidas and Onondagas.

To which the Indians by Colonel Louis made the following Answer,

Brothers

When your people mett us at the Buffaloe Creek, they said they were sent by the great people of the State to do Busineſs with us, if we cannot agree so many white People will come, that they will drive you all out of your Country; we must therefore agree, because if no agreement is made the State cannot be delayed long something muſt be done. The State sent us here we must make an Agreement for your Lands you must therefore make an Agreement with us for it -

before you go to Muskingum. We must have a written agreement, with you, to carry back to the State. This induced us to enter into the Agreements you have shewn us believing it was between us and the State.

Brothers

When we came back from Fort Pitt we will meet you again and renew the agreement, and make it strong. When we came at Fort Pitt we found every thing in disorder. The Council Fire removed and the Country alarmed; but when we returned we found every thing in peace in this quarter.

Brothers

We have now heard that what you have said and that you are willing to take us under the protection of the State; which makes us very happy we are glad to hear it.

Brothers,

We now understand matters well we will now consult together, not only with our own people but with the Oneidas and Onondagas who are here and we will give you our Answer. We thank you for what you have said we know it is all true.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians within this State at Dennistons Tavern in the City of Albany the nineteenth Day of February 1789.

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton
Lieutenant Governor Van Cortlandt
Abraham Ten Broeck
Peter Gansevoort Jun^r
Ezra L'Hommedieu
John Hathorn - - - -
Samuel Jones - - - } Esquires

The Chiefs and Warriors of the Cayuga Nation with the female Governesses and other women attending; and also the Chiefs from the Seneca Oneidas & Onondaga Tribes who accompanied them to this place

M^r Ryckman + + - M^r Kirkland and Col Lue Cook attended as Interpreters

The Cayugas opened the Business of the meeting with the following speech having first - with the approbation of the Board chosen the Oneida - chief Domine Peter their Mouth to speak for them.

Domini Peter arose and spoke as follows

Brother

Governor of the State of New York and all the other chiefs of the State of New York open your Ears; and all you Chiefs of the five Nations that are now here open your ears.

The Business we have now met upon is of the greatest importance how happy would it be for us all if we now come to a Settlement for our mutual advantage.

Brothers

We have this day met together and smoked our pipes in peace, that you may know the reason of my standing here as Speaker, I would inform you that my Brethren the Cayugas & my children the Senecas wished me to be their Mouth, and as I have heard it is agreeable to the Chiefs of New York, I now stand here. You will possess your mind in peace I have no disposition to oppose your Sentiments; in any thing but shall keep in the Strait path.

Brother Chiefs

In the first place I would aquaint you that last spring we were invited to a Treaty at Muskingum, you + + also called upon us by the Agent of the Northern department to attend the great Treaty. Some of our Tribe went there and have not yet returned. when our Uncles the Chiefs left our Council Fire their only business at the Muskingum was to establish a general peace. this was agreeable to us even the Warriors for though the Clouds gather in the southward and the winds sometimes blow, yet as our Uncles the Sachems labor for a peace the minds of our young warriors are compos'd This Brother Governor, I observe to open the way for what shall follow. Shortly after the clouds from the southward began to rise, we again saw the light of the Sun; but as soon as we saw it an evil spirit began to work threatening the Annihilation of our Territory.

Brother Governor

I observed to you an Evil Spirit had disturbed our peace Do not think from this that we of the five nations were disposed to cherish this evil Spirit, we were deceived, we believed it to be a good Spirit coming from the great Council and thought, we could not injure our selves by opening our ears to the voice of the great Council

This was new; never before had we of the five nations held such a meeting with any of our Brethern

Brethern

Brethren of this Island, we had been accustomed to converse with you according to antient usage.

Brother

A few words may suffice. It would be long to go into particulars and state at large the means by which we were misled. it seems you then sensibly felt our situation, and looking back to ancient times, endeavored to discover methods, to recover our sinking Territory. Let us notwithstanding mutually possess our minds in peace. We can see but a small depth into the hearts of Man. and we can only discover what comes from his tongue.

Brother Governor,

Soon after this I heard your voice though it was small at first, we now speak of the Oneida Nation, yet it gave us life to think you would extend your arms and save our sinking Territory. I heard your voice and sent it on to my Brothers the five Nations.

When we first heard and distinguished your voice it informed us that you would kindle a Council Fire at Fort Stanwix and relate to us all matters respecting our situation.

I have one word more to add to what I last said when your voice came it directed me to send to the five Nations; which I did, but the Council at Fort Stanwix only one Tribe attended. The first Tribe the Onondagas did attend. there was a strange bird, that flew about your voice and related Strange Stories.

It is known to you and us that this bird kept flying while you held your Council Fire at

Fort Stanwix. After your patience had been exhausted in waiting several days you then agreed to take us one by one, as we came, to the Council Fire. This we approved of.

I need not say much on this, you then completed the busineſs to mutual Satisfaction, as we both have papers specifying the agreement between us It is firm, and unalterable no evil Spirit shall ever be able to Erase the lines.

Let me be particular as I am speaking for all the Nations present; when you had finished the Busineſs with the Onondagas you showed the agreement to us, the Oneidas, pointed out the path and opened our eyes, Then you raised us up from sinking into an unfathomable gulph; and placed us on a high mountain; we then comprehended your mind as it was laid before us. It gives me pleasure to reflect on this for you I know but did not the other that miſsled me.

Let me remark once more on our happy settlement you raised a Fortification around us so that no evil Spirits or Birds could fly over and disturb us. Now we are fixed and dwell in peace.

I need not say many words more upon the Council at Fort Stanwix and the transactions there, you remember you saw a few Senecas there you welcomed them although they were neither invited to it, nor Sachems but little children. They then told you with what difficultly they leaped over the mound at Canadasaga.

You remember when these Seneca Lads left your Council Fire you gave them good advice as your Patience then held out, and through love for the Five Nations you invited them to meet you at Albany this winter, to consult upon matters interesting to them, and for their good.

You mentioned to them that you expected them from the remoter parts of the five Nations - They again heard your voice you opened their Eyes it pierced their hearts to see their territory sinking, and that by and by the Warriors would not be at liberty to hunt upon their Lands and, provide for their Women and children.

Then after this the Warriors deliberated on your Message, and determined that it would be for the good of our Nation and prevent our Utter Distruction to come here; although some of our Sachems had not returned from the Southward, yet, we were perswaded when our deliberations were laid before them that they would approve them

After frequent Conferences with our Brethren the Senecas we determined to repair to this ancient Council Fire, we thought it agreeable to the antient usage to take two Brothers of the Onondagas and Oneidas to this place where, our ancestors kindled a Council Fire the Smoak of which reached the heavens and round which they sat and talked of peace.

I observed at first, that I would only touch upon one event after another, and need I call your attention to the Council Fires and

Treaties held here by your and our Forefathers, they had one head, and one heart. The Chain of Friendship was made of Silver so that it could not rust. I need not mention these Occurrences to you + + + + + + + + Our Ancestors you know frequently met to brighten this Chain with a design to see whether any evil Spirit that disturbs the peace of Brethren shook it or sat upon it.

I must now leave this pleasant subject the Talks of our Ancestors you have now seen some of our Brethren of the Five Nations the Cayugas, You have opened your mind and encouraged + + us to believe, that you can retrieve our sinking Territory; and that if any of your people have over leaped the bounds you set them, you can erase the lines. This has given us great Encouragement and universal + + pleasure.

Brother
Governor

We of the Cayugas and Senecas here present thank you from the very bottom of our hearts that you have opened your mind fully to us, when we heard your first and second voice, we were glad but, now we are quite rejoiced. It convinced us that you remembered the Treaties between our Forefathers who loved their Country, for who would not wish to preserve a place whereon to live. The great Spirit gave us this Island and we know you join, in promoting his design, that we should have a place to live on.

Our Ancestors had certain marks, each tribe had a certain boundary or line they called their own, of the Land the great Spirit gave them.

We said we were very glad ** to meet you & hear your voice and trust you are yet able to save our sinking territory. we put it all into your hands, put your hand over the whole reserving to us such a dish as you shall prescribe for us.

This is perfectly agreeable to the conduct of our Ancestors who loved peace and loved their Land; and why because they loved their women & Children — Women whose province it is to cultivate the soil; while they loved their peace and Land, they enjoyed happy days.

We have said we rejoice in this meeting & Transaction. those we have left behind, and those that will return from the southward, will also rejoice, at the issue of our business. the little ones, can now go, with pleasure to look for Fish in the Streams and the Warriors to hunt for wild beasts in the Woods, and be certain that they will not be driven from their Country.

A String of Black Wampum with six Rows

I have repeatedly said I was glad to hear your words, that they have sunk deep into my heart and raised up my land & Country that was about to sink. — I entreat you by this String to keep firm to your word and reach out your hands over my Country and save it. our dish we will reserve – This transaction will not only rejoice our absent Friends, but our Childrens Children to the latest Generation, they will say with Joy Oaghwandagen. the Governor of New York preserved their Country from distruction..,

(A String of white Wampum with six Rows)

You have heard our voice, we now entreat you to open your Ears and hear a Speech from our Sisters – the Governesses

Brother,

Our Ancestors considered it a great transgression to reject the Council of their Women, particularly the female Governesses. Our Ancestors considered them Mistresses of the Soil. Our Ancestors said, who, bring us forth, who, cultivate our Lands, who, kindles, our Fires and boil our pots, but the Women. Our Women say, they think their Uncles, had of late lost the power of thinking, and were about sinking their territory, they take this opportunity of thanking you for with holding them from falling down the precipice to which their Uncles had – brought them. The Women say let not the Tradition of the Fathers with respect to women be disregarded, let them, not be despised – God is their – Maker. Their Sisters they left behind are waiting with Anxiety to hear your voice.

The female Governesses beg leave to speak with that Freedom allowable to women, and agreeable to the Spirit of our Ancestors. They exhort the great Chief to put forth his Strength and preserve their peace; for they are the life of the Nation they do not doubt your power. If any body disturbs them they are your Subjects and you can punish them They rejoice that while their Counsellors are settling a peace at Muskingum and you here labouring for their Good, peace will spread over their whole Country.

Six Strings of Wampum

Then good Peter added

Possess your mind in peace you are sensible that in things of importance omissions .. may be made and that a person afterward may be allowed to correct them

You have given us the greatest encouragement of Continuing your Eyes upon us for our peace and good. It is probable when we have finished our business here some, bad men may break over the line you have made round us there are (excuse us brother) some bad folks among the white people in this Island, they may not hear your voice as far as our Country, we therefore propose that Peter Ryckman our Child who lives among us may in your behalf look at our Affairs and watch over us

You have now heard our minds and our resolutions passed before we left our Country I only act here as a Servant by the request of my Brothers the Cayugas and am now released from my bonds.

Ther.

Whereupon His Excellency the Governor having Conferred with the other Commissioners by their Advice made the following Answer to wit.

Brothers

I am happy to meet you here at this Council Fire. I have listened with attention to what you have said and it gives me great satisfaction. It will be unnecessary to repeat the causes which prevented our Meetings sooner - our brother Peter has given a true relation of them - we wish these things to be forgotten. we are sensible that all men are liable to deception. we have reason to believe our men are conscious of and sorry for their misconduct. and our business here is to guard against the inconveniences resulting therefrom - I cannot but observe that we have never let go the chain of Friendship that binds us together, and that we have strictly adhered to all our Treaties and faithfully observed the ancient covenants, that subsisted between us - The late war interrupted our friendship for a while, but let me remind you of what happened after peace. We then kindled a Council Fire at Fort Stanwix - I see here many on both sides who attended there. Our object was then to rub the rust off the chain of friendship, to cover up the ashes of the dead, and to remove the thorns and briars which had sprung up in the path, and might have interrupted our friendly intercourse—such of our brethren as attended there will remember that it was our wish to preserve their Country and to continue our friendship—I informed you that when we seperated from great Britain and fought out our Independence we made it a principle of our Government that no one could in violation of antient usage purchase your Land without the Consent and Authority of the State. I told you then we did not desire to deprive you of your Country, but that we would if you inclined to sell any part of it purchase it agreeably to antient usage. I appeal to our brethern then present for the truth of what I now say. notwithstanding all this one succeeding year had only elapsed, when difficulties arose, particularly with the Oneidas. They had not sufficiently attended to my voice. our great Council was alarmed and sent my brethern here, and me to Fort Herkemer to avert the impending evils. I was in hope after this that no new difficulty would ensue. I know the birds continue to fly about, and are apt to deceive. They did so formerly when there were no white people on this Island and frequently led our brethern into war and difficulties, but those birds that fly between the white people and Indians are still more dangerous and mischevious. In antient times they flew about and carried nothing with them, but the great misfortune is that they now fly about with a bag, and by this means do greater mischief. They not only deceive our brothers out of their lands, but destroy their lives - Brothers you must break those bags whenever they are brought among you, and the birds will be able to do you but little injury - you will then enjoy health, exercise your reason, and preserve your Country - I do not mention this in the way of reproach, but as a friend anxious for your happiness and welfare. I will now proceed to speak upon the business for which this Council Fire was kindled - and particularly address myself to the Cayugas

Brother

Since your arrival I have taken opportunities informally to acquaint you with the nature of the agreements between us and the Onondagas and Oneidas, but in order to impress it deeply on your minds and to speak according to antient usage with belts and strings I will repeat it -

You had parted with all your Country contrary to immemorial Custom and our laws you had not secured Land sufficient upon which to lay down your heads or kindle up your Fires — We could have taken advantage of your imprudence and benefitted ourselves; but this would have been contrary to our ancient covenants made at Albany where we used to drink out of one bowl and eat with one Spoon — We met our brethern the Onondagoes and Oneidas to devise means by which to save their Country — our brethern that were there know that we conversed freely and consulted frequently on measures for promoting our reciprocal & & good after mature consideration both these Nations thought it advisable to cede the whole of their territory to the State, out of which the State reserved competent parts to them and their posterity for ever, with the right of free hunting and fishing throughout the whole Country as heretofore, in consideration of which cession, and to relieve their immediate wants we gave them a sum of money. But brother — We carried our Views farther — We knew the money we gave them would soon vanish, and as white people would settle around them in different Quarters their hunting, the grand Spring of their Subsistance, would be dried up, and they be exposed to hunger and want, we therefore agreed to pay to them and their posterity for ever an annual sum in provisions goods or money as they should elect, to be delivered to them at — Fort Stanwix — In making this agreement we also took other matters into consideration; and I mention these things in contradiction to the opinion that we dealt partially in giving the Oneidas more money and land then the Onondagas because they fought for us during the war.. I wish to explain this matter — The Oneidas deserve much favor from us but we acted impartially in that business — We took into view the number of the Inhabitants in each tribe, and as the Oneidas lived nearer than the Onondagas to the inhabited part of the Country, their hunting would sooner be injured, and altho' we considered you all as our brethren and as bound together by the most solemn covenants, yet it was just to make the distintions we did. I have thus mentioned fully our agreement with the Oneidas and Onondagas, and I have now only to inform you that we are ready and willing to enter into a similar agreement with you, and we are happy to hear that — you came here properly impowered for the purpose

and

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and that you are disposed to treat with us upon those terms. You will easily perceive that it is impossible in so large a company to particularize and reduce to writing the different articles of such an agreement, we therefore request that you would appoint some of your most - experienced men to meet with some of us for this purpose. we will treat with you upon the same terms as we did with the Oneidas and Onondagoes and in confirmation thereof I deliver you this Belt

A Belt

Brothers

I now speak a few words to my Brethern the Oneidas

I am happy that it was in our power to stretch forth our hands and save you when you were on the brink of Ruin

We met you at Fort Stanwix and - made an agreement with you. our report of it was laid before the great Council of our State, who & fully approved of it; and have taken measures for a faithful observance of our stipulations; and the securing the annual payments we engaged to - make to you; you have nothing to give us now but a continuance of your friendship - - It afford us great pleasure to hear you express at this time so much satisfaction with what We have done for you

I have now to address myself to my sisters the female governesses and Women here present in answer to their speech Sisters —

We are sensible of your worth. We are sorry therefore to hear that the importance to which you are entitled by your antient traditions and customs has been in the least diminished and that your unless by declining to listen to your voice had so nearly brought ruin upon your Country and deprived you of your land. we are concious that you are Mistresses of the Soil, that it is your province to cultivate the earth, to kindle the fire and to boil the pot, these arduous duties render you deserving of particular attention, and ought to secure you your due weight in your national Council — but sisters we know your importance to the human race. Without you we could not have existance — you are the mothers of men kind and this of itself entitles you to the greatest respect, and you may be assured that we shall not fail to use our best endeavours to restore and continue to our sisters their antient privilege without the least diminution. We are now about making an agreement with you for your territory, and for securing to you and your posterity a residence in your native land. The dish that we will set a part for you shall be sufficiently large however prolific our sisters may be - even if they should encrease their nation to it antient strength and number — Sisters

I am advancing in years and little accustomed to addreſs your sex in public — you will therefore excuse the imperfections of this speech — I have some Sachems here with me in the Vigour of youth, who if they could be prevailed upon would be able to expreſs themselves more - agreeably to you upon this Occasion

At a Meeting of the Commiſsioners for holding Treaties with the Indians - within this State at Dennistons - Tavern in the City of Albany the 21st day of February 1789

Present
His Excellency Governor Clinton
Ezra L'Hommedieu
Abraham Ten Broeck } Esquires
John Hathorn

The Chiefs and Governeſses of the Cayuga Nation with the Deputies from the Onondagas Oneidas and Senecas attended
Tonyowase the Seneca Chief informed the Commiſsioners that their Pipes were compleate and that they are ready to proceed on busineſs — Good Peter of the Oneidas then rose and -

after mentioning that he was employed by the Cayugas as their mouth to deliver their mind spoke as follows

Brother Governor

Now open your ears that you may hear important matters relating to the conferences which have paſsed betwixt us and you — also every Tribe here present attend for the business is of great importance

Brother

I have observed that the subject of which we treated is of great Importance it relates to the ground upon which we tread, and from which springs up sustenance and therefore respects our nourishment and existence

Brother

Both of us are acquainted of what has paſsed betwixt us since our arrival at this Council Fire

Brother

The evening before last we opened our minds to each other in several long speeches to each of which you answered, to some generally and to others some particularly, much to our satisfaction

Brother

In the close of your answer to our Talks you proposed to us to chuse a small number of our wisest men to meet some of yours the next day to confer on the Subject before us

Brother

When we came to understand particularly your Representation of our Territory it gave us great satisfaction there was a hope arising within us that our Country would still continue to exist

Brother

We have observed to you that when we understood your voice and counsel respecting our Country we observed to you that our Country would continue in peace and that our brother the Governor would continue to exert himself for these purposes and we would be a happy people

Brother Governor

When we saw the purport of your voice it entered deep into our own mind — we wished, we thought, that the great Spirit alone, who loves peace, had put it into your mind, and we wish that this great Spirit may enable you to carry your intentions into execution, and that this Spirit may support you through life to diffuse peace and happiness through our nation

Brother Governor

You understand the whole mind of the

Spirit

great Spirit, his love for peace; you understand and know all Righteousness; I must again repeat that I wish that great Spirit may enable you to diffuse peace and happiness throughout all our nation

Brother

It is indeed true that both are dependent upon this one great Spirit the father of us all, we wish that we may also feel our dependence on him for the prosperity of our nation – we wish he may ~~xxx~~ put in your mind as well as in ours to each the good of our Nation. we believe all that you have said and do not think that there is any deception in you

Brother Governor

You are now Continuing to open your ears and your mind and hear ~~your~~ our voice. we repeat that you understand the voice of the great – Spirit and we pray that he may enable and strengthen you to exert your self for the peace and happiness of our Country

Brother Governor of New York

You are sensible that those who are intrus-ted with important matters can see at a great distance; although you live at New York you can see into our Country and preserve peace there; for our peace & prosperity is at your command

Brother Governor

I have said that I understood all that has passed betwixt us from the first of our conferring together upon our important concerns – but to us and our Brothers the Senecas it appears that there is something yet remaining in your minds which you have not explained. We wish you therefore to explain yourself more fully and suffer us to consider further upon it

We would just observe that this is agreeable to ancient usage that if there were any thing in your minds or not fully understood that it might be fully explained before a final agreement was entered into

Brother Governor

Since you are acquainted with all these things it cannot give you the least offence if we were to invite you to a Council – There you would expect the same indulgence in order that when propositions are made they may be considered deliberately and be all understood

Brother

Let us observe once more that you do not hear our mouth but the mouth of our brother Tribe the people of the Big Tree whose language you better understand and is well qualified for this business but although it is by another mouth it is our mind which is spoken

Good Peter having finished his speech in behalf of the Cayugas His Excellency the Governor conferred with the Commissioners and by their advice made the following Reply

Brother

When we invited you to attend the Council Fire now kindled at this place we explained to you very fully in our Letter the business which we intended to transact with you we informed you that the object of it was to avert the Evils which had been brought upon yourselves by listening to some of our white people and selling to them Contrary to our Laws and ancient usages all your Territory

Brother

This Information was not a new matter the whole was explained to you last year when we invited you to attend the Council Fire which we were then about kindling at Fort Stanwix your Bretheren the Oneidas and Onondagas met us at that Council Fire we entered into agreements were reduced to writing we have one copy and they have another and from your connection with them we have reason to believe that you must have been fully informed of the nature of these agreements before you left home - But Brothers lest this should not be the case after you arrived here I took an opportunity of explaining to you as well in public speeches as in private conferrences the Nature of the business we wished to transact with you the agreements we had made with the Oneidas & Onondagas and the reasons upon which they were founded.

Brothers.

We kept nothing back from you we opened our whole minds to you and it gives us some pain to hear you express suspicions that anything should be concealed from you Brother I fear you still continue to listen two much to the little Birds I warned you against this before I told you that the little birds are more dangerous then they used to be that they carried little bags about with them and that if you hearkened to their voice they would destroy you.

Brothers

After informing you the nature of the agreements between us and the Oneidas and Onondagas we told you we were willing to enter into a similar one with you in framing which we would take into considerations the extent of your Territory its situation and the number of which your nation consists

Brothers

We shewed you the deed which you had executed for your whole Country they are in my possession you had sold the buried places of your fathers and the bones and ashes of your ancestors you had not reserved Land sufficient to lay down your head or kindle a fire upon We could have kept your whole Country - you had nothing left you had nothing to give we called you here for your good we called you here to give you some thing when you had parted with all your substance to enable you and your posterity yet to subsist amongus we called you here to make such an agreement as we had with our other Brothers If you think it is for your Interest you will do it if not I will extinguish this Council Fire and we will part in friendship I have nothing further to say only ~~only~~ to advise you to reflect seriously upon your situation determine soon upon the measures you mean to pursue you will recollect that the middle of last month was appointed for your Attendance at this Council Fire

We have been absent from home near three months and our great Council will in a few Days break up and return home We pray the great Spirit to assist and direct your deliberations and enable you to make up a wise determination

Brother

To morrow is the Day on which we refrain from business and devote to the Worship of the great Spirit We cannot therefore do any public business with you but considering how short the time is we can keep the Council Fire burning at this place I will attend & hear You

Thoneowas The Seneca Speaker in behalf of the Cayugas rose when the Governor had finished and made the following short Speech

Brother Governor of New York

Attend to a few words only as you have now raked up the Council Fire

We have now heard your voice we begin to understand it plainly we again return you thanks for your attention to the Concerns of our Lands

Brother Governor

You will be patient with Us that we have not come to a Determination before this time the subject is of great importance it extends to future generations time was when the six Nations were in their Glory and had wise Counsellors but Children only now remain

Brother Governor

You are a Man of importance I am

afraid of you I tremble in your presence I feel as tho' I stood on anothers Ground your Compassion must be equal to your power

To which his Excellency the Governor answered
Brother
We kindled this Council Fire to consult on matters for our mutual good and to renew & strenghten the ancient covenant of Friendship that subsisted between our Fathers. We claim no preeminence over you we are Republicans we hold that all men are equal you may therefore speak freely to us without any restraint we wish you to understand matters well and come to a wise determination that shall be for your Interest, and future happiness

At a Meeting of the Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians within this State at Dennistons Tavern in the City of Albany the 23d day of February 1789

Present
His Excellency Governor Clinton
Leiutenant Governor Vancortlandt
Abraham Ten Broeck
John Hathorn
Egbert Benson
Ezra L'Hommedieu
Peter Gansevoort Junr.
Esquires

The Company being seated His Excellency the Governor opened the Council Fire by the following short Speech

Brothers
When you met us here last you appeared not

not to have made up your minds there were some things you did not understand they were explained to you, you have had time to consider of them and we hope you have come prepared to give us your determination on the business of the Treaty

On which the Cayugas by good Peter their mouth spoke as follows

Brother Governor of New York with your Chiefs present and all our nation open your ears and give Attention

Brother Governor

You have just observed to us that you opened the Council Fire on our Meeting here two evenings ago and that you requested us to make our minds and let you know on the determination we are now ready to speak Brother Governor now open your Ears we now address you in our own manner and the names of our Sisters the Governesses It is our joint speech you must compassionate us we are but Children

Brother Governor

We Warriors and also the female Governesses our Sisters now declare we understand your voice and now you understand our Condition that you mean to extend your care to our Lands so that we shall have a Territory to us and our posterity forever.

Brother Governor

We Warriors with those we represent with our sisters the Governesses have agreeable prospects before whom your proposals respecting the good of our Nation let us now deliberate wolly on the subject & understand what part of the Territory is to be ceded to you and what is to be retained for us & our posterity with the Rights of hunting the wild Beasts of the wood and taking the fish out of the waters

Brother Governor

It is necessary that the Treaty should be made in such manner that it be satisfactory to both parties - you know how disagreeable it is to People and have their arms bound - If our Limits are two narrow it may give us uneasiness when the rest of our Country is filled up by your People

Brother Governor

Now you have opened your Ears to hear our continued Voice we are desirous of a large seat to set down on though you are but few here we are many The Paanese are annexed to our Tribe as the Tuscarroras are to the Oneida Tribe you must make a little room for them

Brother

We have said we now fully understand your mind and every thing you have said is just and right you have said it was your will to extricate the distressed out of Difficulties we have experienced and believe it

Brother Governor

You still continue to open your Ears to our voice we have said that Justice and Righteousness marks all your paths and that your -

bear a Love to us the six Nations and that it is not your wish to extinguish the Fire in any of their Tribes but that the smoke of their Habitations may still continue

Brother Governor

In order to compleate your wishes for your prosperity and our own ~~our~~ mutual peace and good must be equally attended to should we be seated by and by in a large seat when we are to set down as we are the Big Tree we shall collect the small Trees but if our seat be too small there will be no room for them

Brother

Possess your mind in peace as you shall continue to open your ears while we are speaking and if any thing falls from us disagreeable to you, you will not suffer it to disturb your mind We mean to put aside every thing disagreeable that we may come to the substantial matters of our business If we are disturbed with unimportant matters it will not be acting like men but Children

Brother

You are a Sachem and the Chiefs are also are in the same situation it is necessary that we understand each other and be agreed then our minds will be happy

Brother

We take it for granted you will

possess your mind in peace you know in making Bargains of small consequence some difference in sentiments will arise much more so in the sale of Lands a matter of great consequence which requires much conversation

Brother Governor

Our Sisters the female Governesses came to this Council Fire to hear with their own Ears the words that came from the Governors mouth we are concerned for them and therefore proceed with great caution how happy should we be if the dish should be so large as fully to gratify their minds

Brother Governor

We have repeatedly expressed our desire of having an enlarged seat or place to sit down upon so that we might procure our subsistance and recreate ourselves

You observed that by our past conduct we had lost all our Lands we now look to you and expect you will enlarge our seat and provide for our happiness

Brother you now have in your possession the papers which are evidences of the Loss of our whole Country and which has sunk us down almost out of sight and as these lie before us in their consequences we look to your goodness in making us as happy as you in respect to what you retain as well as in that which may be assigned to us

Brother

Now you are continuing to hear, we proposed that you reserve to us and our Nation on this side our lake and extending it northerly towards Lake Ontario as there is bad Land and your subjects can find no place to break the Clods this you will consider in your wisdom and we shall by and by mention a place for our Residence

Brother

We would wish to resettle in the place where our Ancestors lived and this for various reasons particularly of the Salt Springs which are necessary to season the victuals we eat

Brother

This is all we the Sachems and female Governesses would say at this time we expect soon to hear your voice and know what you judge will most conduce to our happiness

Then Good Peter spoke for himself

Brother

I would speak one word for you both for the Cayuga Nation and your people that you should keep your mind in peace and harmonise in your Negotiations I am but a servant to you both and act faithfully I am almost exhausted I have spoke long and have had nothing to wet my Lips

Good Peter having finished his speech His Excellency the Governor conferred with the Commissioners and by their advise made the following Reply

Brothers

We have been several Days conversing on the subject for which we kindled this Council Fire and are happy that we now understand each other

We informed you Brothers when we first met you that we were willing to enter into a similar Agreement with you as we had done with the Onondagas and fully explained to you that agreement

We have reason to believe from what you mentioned to night that you understood that agreement but from the large Dish you wish to have reserved to you we are doubtful whether you understood the reasons which induced the Onondagas to accept of and us to grant the reservation It may therefore be expedient to explain to you those Reasons more fully and particularly than we have heretofore done we found that our Brethern had sold their Lands to the southward to the people of Pennsylvania and their Lands to the westward to the people of Boston that their people were going on to settle and that in a short time our Brethern would not be able to procure a Subsistance.

You have all seen with your own eyes how the white people are settling Scheming and surveying ~~among~~ at the westward these were not our doings these Lands were sold without our advise they are sold and the white ~~people~~ people are settling under this situation of Affairs we consulted with our Brethern last fall we found that our Bretherin the white people would go among them carry kegs with them purchase and settle all their Lands

After the most mature Deliberation we could find no other way to prevent this Mischief but for our Bretherin to grant us their Lands so that we might take them under our particular care and protection but that our Bretherin should have Land to work on and procure Subsistance we laid out Land sufficient for their respective nations in case their numbers should be tentimes more then they are at present

The Oneidas who are the most numerous nation have land reserved for them in case they live as we do to support twelve thousand souls

To the Onondagas who are less numerous and whose hunting will continue longer was reserved Land sufficient to support Four Thousand souls this is more than the two Nations consisted of in their most flourishing days

It may be asked why were they restricted to so narrow limits I answer it is not because we want their Lands we have more than we can settle you see as you travel through our

Country large Tracts from which no Smoke arises It is because our disorderly Children get in among you to whom you will sell your Lands which creates uneasiness and Confusion among~~st~~ you and with us it is because if we reserve to you a larger Territory than you are able to improve it will remain in woods and our disorderly white people will again get in among you & make purchases of the same and create the same evils which you have lately experienced There is another reason why your reservation should not be large you have all the Lands to hunt in and all the waters to fish in. If the Lands you wish to reserve are too rough for cultivation they will remain unsettled & you will have every advantage of hunting as if they were reserved If you reserve twenty thirty or forty Miles and the white people settle around you it will be impossible for you to subsist by hunting

If then you cannot live by hunting what method can we contrive to keep you amongst us & support you but such an Angreement as we made with the Onondagas

We reserved to our Brethren the Onondagas & ~~Senecas~~ Oneidas a Tract of Country sufficient for ages to come should they increase in the same proportion as the white people But Brothers we have done more than this we found if their hunting decreased they would be obliged to turn their attention more to the cultivation of the earth as you must do whereupon we gave them money to purchase Cattle and other Stock. This was not all Brothers we know that the money we paid down would soon be gone and they would want every year some thing to support their women and Children we therefore agreed to give every year to the Oneidas six hundred Dollars and to the Onondagas five hundred Dollars and we appeal to you and to our Sisters whether either of these sums is not more than your Nation annually got by hunting Now Brothers we have explained to you fully and particularly the reasons which induced our Brothern and us to make its the agreement at Fort Stanwix last year we considered of the Subject deliberately and we wish the Brothers of these Nations here present to speak and say if we have not spoken faithfully now Brothers we stand ready to enter into the same agreement as we did with the Onondagas in respect to the reservation of Land payment of money down and annual payment If your nation is larger than their it is reasonable you should have more but if it is not, there is no reason why you should have a larger dish or more money. If there was a Salt Spring in the Onondaga Country it was reserved for common use if there is any in your Country it shall be reserved for the same use. if there are any fishing places in your Country particularly useful they shall be reserved with a sufficiency of Lands to haul up your Canoes and kindle Fires, Brothers you now know particularly the agreement we ~~were~~ are willing to enter into with you it is the same as we entered into with the Onondagas – with this difference only if your nation or Territory is Larger than theirs your dish will be proportionally greater

Brothers and Sisters

We know your situation you have Lost many of your Warriors the last war you cannot set and consult as formerly by your Council Fires you may be afraid when you go home your nation may blame you for not making so good an agreement as they might expect But Brothers and Sisters we wish you to Consider whether any agreement you can make with us can put you in worse circumstances than you are at present you parted with all your Lands at

Buffalo

Buffaloe Creek even the bones and ashes of your Ancestors and had nothing left and no security for the payment of the monies which were promissed to you we now offer you a sufficient reservation of Land a sum of money down and an Annual sum forever your nation ought to rejoice in such a Treaty

— Now Brothers we think matters are very well understood between us it grows late and after we have taken a Drink together you can go home with our Sisters and think of it and meet here again at ten OClock to morrow morning. I can not attend myself but my brothers here will be present and hear what you have to say

At a meeting of the Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians within this State at Dennistons Tavern in the City of Albany the 24th day of February 1789

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton
Abraham Ten Broeck }
Peter Gansevoort Jun.r } Esquires
Egbert Benson .... }

The Company being seated Good Peter the Oneida Chief in behalf of the Cayugas rose and spoke as follows

Brother Governor and your Chiefs present open your Ears By the providence of the great Spirit we are brought together in peace

Brother

You may remember how far we advanced in the Business of this Treaty - We have passed by many difficulties which were in the way and we are almost come to the end of the path. you opened your mind to us and desired us to consider of what your then said and desired us to confer with the Governesses of our nation If you are prepared to hear ~~we are able to hear~~ we are ready to give our Answer

Brother

You will continue to open your Ears. at the Close of your Speech last Evening you summed up what you had said by Stating to us our situation and informing us of what you supposed would be best for us and we understood you

Brother Governor

In the Close of your Speech last Evening when you told us that the path was now clear and recommended us to confer together and to make choice of what we should suppose would be best and that you would + at this time hear us again but that you would not yourself be present but that your other Chiefs would be your ear

Brother Governor

After much conversation with our Sisters it will be neceſsary for us to know your mind as to what would be best for us you told us that you knew our situation and circumstances and compaſsionated us we have heretofore thanked you and we now again with a loud voice thank you for your Good will towards us

You told us of what was neceſsary for our Subsistance and informed us that our Warriors should have the right to procure there Means of Subsistance out of the waters and else where as they pleased - For this we and our Sisters give you thanks

Brothers

It was your mind as we understood you and your determination that we and our posterity should have the free Right of fishing and hunting throughout our whole Territory and that you would with all your Authority see that this stipulation should be fulfilled for this we also thank you

Brother

Poſseſs your mind in peace notwithstanding we proceed with so much caution and deliberation It was your advise to us and it became necessary in order that such of our Brethern as have stayed behind might be the better satisfied with what should be concluded on at this Treaty

Brother

We have repeatedly said and we again say that the Warriors and our Sisters are well pleased with the proposals mentioned in your Speech and with the Articles which you have stated to us to be agreed on in the present Treaty — we receive them

Brothers

We Warriors with our Sisters having expressed our Approbation of the Articles of the Treaty as proposed by you would wish to state some matters to be stipulated by us on our part

Brother Governor

You still have your Ears open to our voice and to the voice of our Sisters. It is their wish to be heard in relation ~~in~~ to some matters to be stipulated in the Treaty for their Benefit you advised us to listen to them when they spoke wisely and they hope you will attend to their request

It is an acknowledged Truth that our Sisters are the principal Inhabitants of the Earth - The Earth from whence Spring the articles necessary to sustain Life is theirs and it is thereupon necessary we should hearken to their advise

Brother

As your Ears are still open you have heard what advances we have this day made towards compleating the business now before us we the Warriors and Sisters have thus opened our minds to you

Brother

We have jointly with our Sisters declared our approbation of all the important Articles of the Covenant which we are to enter into we hope you will lend a kind ear when the Sisters shall propose some Amendments which would be agreeable to them

Brother

The Sisters now speak as the Warriors have declared their approbation of the Articles you have proposed, the Sisters mention that there is a Salt Spring in their Country which they wish may be reserved It is therefore our mind that this Spring should be included in the Reservation. This is all we have to say at present until we have heard your mind on this proposed Amendment

Brother Governor

In the Close of our last Speech we mentioned that we would soon inform you of the whole of our minds in relation to the Business now before us

Brother Governor

While your Eyes were open you might

have perceived our minds to labor on the business and you thought you might ease us by your informing us previously of your mind as to our Good and the Good of our posterity you supposed we did not sufficiently look forward we informed our selves fully of your mind and be assured we are fully persuaded of your good Intentions to us & our Nation have patience with us a little longer when you will hear the minds of our Warriors And then you can speak

Brother We are almost at the end of the path and we shall soon come out to the last thoughts of our minds

The Cayugas then exhibited a rough sketch of their Country and pointed out the Lands to be reserved

The Governor then addressed them as follows:

Brothers—

We are happy to find from what you have said that we understood each other perfectly nothing therefore remains but to ascertain the particulars of the Agreement to be entered into between us to fix the Limits of the Lands to be reserved to you to fix the amount of the sum to be paid to you at present and the amount of the sum to be paid to you and your posterity annually forever

Brothers

Before we proceed to state any proposals to you we would enquire from you whether your nation is more numerous than the

Onondagas and whether that part of your Territory which lies Westward of the lands ceded by this State to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is more extensive than the Territory of the Onondagas? will your nation probably encrease faster than the Onondagas? If your nation is not more numerous or if your Territory is not more extensive & If the probability of your encrease is not greater than that of the Onondagas can you reasonably expect that we should deal with you on other terms than we have with them? would they not have reason to complain of Injustice?

Brothers

In our agreement with the Onondagas a tract was reserved for their use and cultivation sufficiently extensive both in their and in our Judgment for that purpose and we will agree to a similar Reservation to you to be laid out in any shape & to extend from the Cayuga Lake to the Washkong Lake as you may think proper and if by the addition of your Children the Paanes your Nation is more numerous the Reservation to be proportionably extensive and there shall not in consideration of such additional Reservation be any Diminution of the consideration money to be paid to you – with respect to the Salt Spring there was one also in the Onondaga

Country

County and it was first proposed to divide this Spring assigning one side to the Onondagas and the other side to the white people but after much deliberation respecting this matter it was finally agreed and as satisfactorily to the Onondagas as to us that this Spring and Lands for a mile around it should remain free and in common for the Onondagas and our people. We are willing to make the same - agreement with you

Brothers

In the course of our Negociations you have requested your Child Peter Ryckman should be permitted to reside among you to assist you in taking care of your concerns & that he might have a dish this we will agree to

Brother

Within the Lands to be reserved the Fish Carrier has a Claim to a mile square and it will be expected that this should be reserved for his particular use - The Daughter of our Brother Thanio was one of your nation is married to a white man who has settled and improved a farm among you and as we understand it is your wish he shall also - have a small dish

Good Peter then rose and made the following reply in behalf of Cayugas to the Governors Answer

Brother Governor

You will attend while we speak a few words you sometimes take your turn and we now ~~are~~ take ours to speak on the business now before us we have heard your voice and with great Satisfaction as we perfectly understand you on the various Subjects on which you have spoken you connected your Advise with this that we should enter into the like Covenant as the Onondagoes. Have patience while we speak about the Salt Spring again

Brother

Possess your mind in peace where we are agreed we will unite our minds It was usual with our Ancestors in all Negociations to weigh well the Consequences and then endeavor to come to a Conclusion

Brother

We trust you will possess your mind as we now understand the extent of the Dish to be reserved

Brother

We entreat that nothing which we may say will disturb the Tranquility of your mind

The Governor then made the following Reply

Brother

We understand your proposition relative to the Limits of the Land to be reserved it was that you wished to have your reservation beginning at the Salt Spring and from thence extending southerly so as that the extreme Distance of that Line should be in the Center of the Lands betwixt the two lakes that from the Salt Spring you are to extend up the Seneca River to the Cayuga thence around the northern End of that lake to where the Seneca River empties into the Lake thence up the south side of the river to Skayes thence extending southerly approaching the Cayuga Lake so as to Comprehend the ancient Cayuga Settlements bordering on the lake so that the Line extending southerly from the Salt Spring shall include one hundred Square Miles but we would be understood at the same time that a Mile Square at the Cayuga Ferrying place is not to be deemed part of the Lands so to be reserved for your use but is to be at the disposal of the State

To which good Peter then rose and made the following reply in behalf of the Cayugas

Brother Governor with your Chiefs

You will open your Ears, there is one matter that lies with weight on our minds Although we have gone through with all the principal Articles of our present Covenant, This matter respects our son Peter Ryckman We have felt concerned about the dish to be given to him, We had long ago all agreed that he should have a dish in our Country as we all expected to put our spoons in it when we were hungry and you must allow us to speak on this Subject before We come to a final Close - In the first place we will tell you where we wish that this dish should be placed for our Convenience - it is on the east side of the Outlet of Canadasaga Lake from thence ~~we~~ he can cast his Eyes down to Shawayes the extreme of the Lands reserved to us We have not given the dimentions of this dish we thought we would leave this to you, you can extend your Armes far, It was always our wish that his Dish should be large and we hope you will gratify us in this and not disappoint that confidence which we have in your Generosity

Brother

One request more with respect to our Friend Peter Ryckman that he may be authorised by you to attend to our Good he is your Subject and under your controul our Dependence is much upon him for our future prosperity should he be taken from us, We would think some Evil Spirit had deprived us of our hopes

Brother

Attend while we speak a few words at the Close of the Business We thank you for your condescension in attending to the request of our Sisters as to the proposed Amendment respecting the Reservation of Lands

Our Nation is at Present much dispersed but it is not improbable but they will return to us with their Wives and Children and this is the reason for our wishing to have the Reservation of Lands for our use extensive

To which the Governor made the following reply

It being agreed between us as to the Lands to be reserved and in such manner as that we perfectly understand each other, We will now State to you the payments to be made to you We will pay you Five hundred Dollars before you leave this City one thousand six hundred and twenty five Dollars on the first day of June next and five hundred Dollars on the first day of June for ever thereafter

Brother and Sisters

When you reflect that you had parted with the whole of your Country without reserving a spot to lay down or to kindle a fire on and that you had disposed of the Lands to people whom you had no means to compel to pay what they had promised you will be perswaded that our Sisters and, Brothers whom you have left at home and your and their Children will have reason to rejoice at the Covenant which you have now made which not only saves you from impending Ruin but restores you to peace and security

Brothers

We shall now cause the Covenant between us to be reduced to writing so that it may be ready to be executed when we meet to morrow

The Governor then agreeable to the usual form covered up the Council Fire in order to have time to prepare the Deeds of Cession

At a Meeting of the Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians within this State at the House of John Taylor Esquire in the City of Albany the 25th Day of February 1789

Present
His Excellency Governor Clinton
His Honorable Lieut. Governor Van Cortlandt
Ezra L'Hommedieu
Abraham Ten Broeck
Peter Gansevoort Junr.
John Hathorn
Egbert Benson
} Esquires

Resolved That Mr. Tayler procure Six Hundred Dollars in Specie for the use of the Board and also that he purchase Goods to the Amount of Two Hundred Dollars proper to be Distributed in Presents to such of the Onydas, and Anundagoes, Who have attended ~~[illegible]~~ and assisted at the present Treaty. —

—Mr Benson produced to the Board a Draft of the Deed of Cession with two engrossed Copies thereof which were read and approved and the Board being informed by Mr Peter Ryckman that the Indians were agreeable to appointment attending at Dennistons Tavern to execute the Deeds, The Board adjourned to that place

The Company being seated His Excellency the Governor desired Mr Kirkland the Interpreter to inform the Cayuga Indians that the Agreement which they entered into yesterday was reduced to writing and ready to be executed that it should now be interpreted to them in their own Language that they should pay — Attention to it so that they might understand it well and see that it was right, It was accordingly interpreted to them by Mr Kirkland and they expressed their perfect approbation of it — but at the same time expressed a desire to have a Mile Square reserved on each side of the Cayuga River at Skayes their Eeling place, which was readily assented to by the Commissioners and was noted as well as the Reservation of the Lands about the Salt Spring at the bottom of the instruments before the Execution thereof Duplicates of the said Deed of Cession were then executed by the said Commissioners and Indians in the usual Form and farther authenticated by the Delivery of Belts with them according to the Indian Custom

The Deed is in the words following to wit

At a Treaty held in the City of Albany in the State of New York by his Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the said State The Honorable Pierre Van Cortlandt Esquire Lieutenant Governor of the said State Ezra L'Hommedieu Abraham Ten Broeck John Hathorn Samuel Jones Peter Gansevoort Junr & Egbert Benson Esquires

Commissioners authorized for that Purpose by and on Behalf of the People of the State of New York with several of the Sachems Chiefs and Warriors of the Tribe or Nation of Indians called the Cayugas for and on behalf of the said Nation It is on this twenty fifth day of February in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine Covenanted and concluded as follows

First the Cayugas Do cede and grant All their Lands to the People of the State of New York for ever

Secondly the Cayugas shall of the said ceded Lands hold to themselves and to their Posterity for ever for their own use and Cultivation but not to be sold leased or in any other Manner Aliened or disposed of to others All that Tract of Land Beginning at the Cayuga Salt Spring on the seneca River La and running thence southerly to intersect the middle of a line to be drawn from the outLet of Cayuga to the out Let of Waskongh ote Lake and from the said place of Intersection southerly the General Course of the eastern Bank of the Cayuga Lake thence westerly to intersect a line running on the west side of the Cayuga Lake at the mean distance of three Miles from the western Banck thereof and from the said point of Intersection along the said line so running on the west side of the Cayuga Lake to the Seneca River thence down the said River to the Cayuga Lake thence through the said Lake to the outlet thereof thence farther down the said Seneca River to the place of Beginning so as to comprehend within the Limits aforesaid and exclusive of the water of Cayuga Lake the Quantity One hundred square Miles, also the place in the Seneca River at or near a place called Skayes where the Cayugas have heretofore taken Eel and a Competent piece of land on the southern side of the River at the said place sufficient for the Cayugas to Land and encamp on and to cure their Eel, Excepted Nevertheless out the said Lands or reserved one Mile Square at the Cayuga Ferry

Thirdly The Cayugas and their Posterity forever shall enjoy the free Right of Hunting in every Part of the said ceded Lands and of Fishing in all the Waters within the same

Fourthly In Consideration of the said Cession and Grant, The People of the State of New York do at this present Treaty pay to the Cayugas five hundred Dollars in Silver, (The Receipt whereof the Cayugas do hereby Acknowledge) And the People of the State of New York shall pay to the Cayugas on the first day of June next at Fort Schuyler formerly called Fort Stanwix the farther sum of one thousand six hundred and twenty five + Dollars ——

And also the People of the State of New York shall annually pay to the Cayugas and their Posterity forever on the first day of June in every year thereafter at Fort Schuyler aforesaid five hundred Dollars in Silver; But if the Cayugas or their Posterity shall at any time hereafter elect that the whole or any Part of the said Annual Payment of five hundred Dollars, shall be paid in Cloathing or Provisions and give six weeks previous Notice thereof to the Governor of the said State for the Time being, then so much of the Annual Payment shall for that Time be in Cloathing or Provisions as the Cayugas or their Posterity shall elect & at the Price which the same shall cost the People of the State of New York at Fort Schuyler aforesaid; And as a further Consideration to the Cayugas, the People of the State of New York shall grant to their adopted Child Peter Ryckman whom they have expressed a Desire should reside near them ~~and~~ to assist them. And as a Benevolence from them the Cayugas to him and in return for services rendered by him to their Nation the said Tract of one Mile Square at the Cayuga Ferry excepted out of the said Lands reserved to the Cayugas for their own use and Cultivation; The said Tract beginning on the West bank of the Seneca Lake thence running due west (passing one Chain north of an House lately erected and now in the occupation of the said Peter Ryckman) to the Line of Partition between this State of New York and the Common Wealth of Massachusetts of the Line ceded to each State, Thence due South along the said Line of Partition Thence due East to the Seneca Lake Thence Northerly along the Bank of the said Lake to the Place of Beginning so as to contain Sixteen Thousand Acres The People of the State of New York shall grant three hundred and twenty Acres to a White Person married to a Daughter of a Cayuga woman Thanawas including the present Settlement of the said Person on the South of Canoga Creek and that the people of this State of New York shall grant the residue of the said Tract of Sixteen Thousand Acres to the said Peter Ryckman

Fifthly The People of the State of New York may at all times hereafter in such manner and by such means as they shall deem proper prevent any Persons except the Cayugas and their adopted Brethern the Shawnese from residing or settling on the Lands to be held by the Cayugas and their Posterity for their own Use and Cultivation, And if any Persons shall without the Consent of the People of the State of New York come to reside or settle on the said Lands or any other of the Lands so ceded as aforesaid, The Cayugas and their Posterity shall forthwith give Notice of such Intrusions to the Governor of the said State for the time being, And further the Cayugas and their Posterity forever shall at the request of the Governor of the said State be aiding to the People of the State of New York in removing all such Intruders and apprehending not only such Intruders but also all Felons and other offenders who may happen to be on the said ceded Lands To the End that such Intruders Felons and other Offenders may be brought to Justice, Notwithstanding the said Reservation herein above Specified to the Cayugas, It is declared to be the Intent ~~of the Intent~~ of the Parties that the Cayugas called the Fish Carrier shall have a Mile Square of the said Reserved Lands for the Seperate use of himself and for the Seperate Use of his Family forever. In Testimony whereof as well the Sachems Chiefs ~~and~~ Warriors Governesses and other of the Cayugas in behalf of their Tribe or Nation as the said

Governor and other Commissioners in behalf of the People of the State of New York have hereunto interchangeably set their hands and affixed their Seals the Day and year first above written

Pierre Van Cortlandt .. (L.S.) Tewahiamentha his mark (L.S.)
Ezra L'Hommedieu .. (L.S.) Ysowcanse his mark (L.S.)
Abm Ten Broeck .... (L.S.) Kanighsayende his mark (L.S.)
John Hathorn ...... (L.S.) Thaweunghton her X mark (L.S.)
Samuel Jones .... (L.S.) Swathaa her mark (L.S.)
Peter Gansevoort Junr (L.S.) Thaghnawego her mark (L.S.)
Egbt Benson .... (L.S.) Thajeonhuheagh his mark (L.S.)
Toghtighney .... her mark (L.S.) Kanoghtsiyatha his X mark (L.S.)
Agottyorigos .... his mark (L.S.) Tegowcandagnengh his mark (L.S.)
Haonghyentha his mark (L.S.)

N.B. the above fore signed by their Chief Steel Trap
Tewathuhase his mark (L.S.) Tyotyanentha his X mark (L.S.)
Thaguendyak his mark (L.S.) Teggawahnongh his mark (L.S.)

N.B. the above four persons signed by Steel Trap as their Deputy .... Thankaghtyagon his mark (L.S.)
Tekenayhage .. his mark (L.S.) Thanonghtye his mark (L.S.)
Hanaryac ...... his mark (L.S.) Alliwanecamne his mark (L.S.)
Goghgo ..... his mark (L.S.) Jadenon his mark (L.S.)
Karryadowasadiroaghsla his mark (L.S.) Neggonde his mark (L.S.)
Geo: Clinton ...... (L.S.) Kanistagia his mark (L.S.) Steel Trap

Sealed and delivered in the presence of the words (Quantity of) (in the Seneca River at a near a place (thereafter) (the) and (a) being first interlined and the words (of a) and (Fifthly the people of the State of New York may at all times hereafter in such manner and by such means as they may deem prevent any persons) being first wrote on Razure— —Before sealing and delivery hereof it ~~is~~ was for the greater Certainty declared to be the intent of the parties that this Grant and Cession is only of the Lands eastward of the partition Line above mentioned between this State of New York & the Common Wealth of Maſsachusetts and that with respect to such part of their Country as is to the Westward of the said Partition Line the Right and Property of the Cayugas to be y^t the same as if this Grant and Cession had not been made and the Cayuga Salt Spring and the Land to the Extent of one Mile around the same to remain for the Common Use and Benefit of the People of the State of New York and of the Cayugas and their Posterity for ever And the Land to be reserved at the fishing place near Skayes shall be of the Extent of one Mile on each side of the River the above Reservation of Land on the southern side of the River only notwithstanding

Sam^l Kirkland Meſs.^rs John I Bleecker Gerard Bancker

Quedel Ajwilentongwes his X mark
Oneyanha his mark Skenondongh his mark
Kakikstoten his mark Haghyeande his mark
Wyadeaghkalongwea alias Lewis Cook his X mark
Towaniaghsaleſse alias Daniel his mark
Gilbert Livingston John Taylor Ph: V Cortlandt

After the Execution of the Deed of Cession Good Peter rose and spoke as follows

Brother Governor

Possess your mind – I would now speak a few words to my Brothers the Cayugas and entreat the Attention of our Brother and his Chiefs. I entreat of our Brother the Cayugas to observe the Covenant which they have this evening made with our Brother the Governor and Chiefs of their State I have as much Satisfaction in the Conclusion of the present Treaty as the Parties themselves, Our Brother the Governor and his Chiefs have fastned down a Settlement for you my Brothers Cayugas which cannot be removed Our Fathers have unwisely sold their Lands by Parcels & drank it up, You have now secured a Settlement for your Posterity who have reason to rejoice and to commend you for the Transactions of this evening

Brother Governor

Remember the former days when you were weak and we were strong and have Compassion on us who are now weak you have the Book which teaches the right Way

To which the Governor replied

Brothers

The Covenant between us is now

compleated and I deliver to you this writin to be preserved by you, It contains the Articles of the Covenant and is authenticated both agreeable to your Custom and ours.

Our Brother Peter has given good advice both to us and to our Brothers the Cayugas and we assure our Brother of our Determi=nation to observe it and faithfully to observe this Covenant which we sincerely wish may be for the Happiness of our Brothers and their Posterity

Brothers

To convince you of our regard for you and to compensate such of you as have attended the Treaty for your trouble in this Business we shall in addition to the sum stipulated to be paid furnish you with goods to the amount of one hundred and twenty five Dollars. We shall also consider our friends the Oneidas and Onondagoes whom you have requested to accompany you and assist you in the Business of this Treaty and especially our Brother Peter the Minister to whom both you and we are much indebted for his labour and Services on this Occasion

ex?

The 26th of February 1789

The Commissioners were imploy=ed in collecting and adjusting Accounts of Expences Attendin the Treaty and making Arrangements for the Departure of the Indians.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners at Dennistons Tavern in the City of Albany on the 27th Feby. 1789

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton
Mr Ten Broeck
Mr Gansevoort
Mr Benson...
Mr L'Hommedieu

Resolved that the Treasurer of the Monies in his Hands subject to the Order from the Board in favor of Richard Varick pay to John Taylor Agent to this Board the Sum of Two Thousand Pounds. Kaightoten an Onondga Chief having represented to the Board that his Nation were in great want of Provisions and that they had elected that one hundred Bushels of Indian Corn should be paid to them and desired that it might be delivered to them at Fort Schuyler, as soon as conveniently may be in part of the Five hundred Dollars payable to them on the first day of June next. Thereupon Resolved that John Taylor agent of this Board do contract with such Persons as he may deem competent to perform the Contract for One hundred Bushels of Indian Corn to be delivered at Fort Schuyler as soon as conveniently may be and that Mr Taylor cause the same to be delivered to the Onondagoes and that he cause Notice to be given to the Onondagoes of the time when the Corn will be there to the, And that they may attend to receive the same,

Resolved that Eight pounds be allowed and paid to a Cayuga Indian for his Horse which was killed and eat as Provisions by the Indians on their Journey and that Mr Taylor pay the same.

Resolved that Mr Taylor pay to Steel trap and his Brother and a certain Governess of the Cayugas Twelve pounds for Services rendered by them

All which is respectfully reported to the Legislature at Albany this 20th Day of February 1789

Geo: Clinton

Pierre Van Cortlandt

John Hathorn

Egbt Benson

Ezra L'Hommedieu

Wm Ten Broeck

Peter Gansevoort Junr

At a Meeting of the Commiſsioners for holding Treaties with the Indians within this State held at the City of Albany on the 3rd day of March 1789.

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton

M^{r} L'Hommedieu } M^{r} Hathorn
M^{r} Jones } M^{r} Benson

Resolved, that the Rev^{d} Samuel Kirkland be Authorized by this Board, in Behalf of the State, to Obtain a Ceſsion to the People of this State from the Senecas, of all their Lands to the Eastward of the line of Partition between the State of New York and the Commonwealth of Maſsachusetts of the Lands ceded to each other and that the Attorney General prepare and deliver to M^{r} Kirkland the Deed to be executed by the Senecas.

Resolved further, that M^{r} Tayler be allowed as Agent to the Board at the Rate of five per Cent on all Monies paid out by him (Except such monies as may be for the payment of Goods furnished out of his Store) And twenty shillings per Day during the Term of the Treaty with the Cayugas

At a Meeting of the Commiſsioners for holding Treaties with the Indians within this State at the House of John Tayler at Albany on Wednesday the 8th July 1789.

Present
His Excellency the Governor
The Lieutenant Governor } Samuel Jones
Abraham Ten Broeck } Ezra L'Hommedieu

Mr. Tayler Agent to the Commissioners laid before the Board Receipts from the Oneida, Onondaga and Cayuga Nations, subscribed by a Number of thei Chiefs Warriors and principal Women for the different sums Stipulated by the late Treaties and Deeds of Cession from those Nations to be paid to them respectively on the first day of June last, Whereupo it was Resolved that the said Receipts be delivered to the Governor to be deposited in the Secretary's Office. Mr. Tayler also laid before the Board a Report of the Proceedings while employed in the above Service containing several Speeches made to him by the different Tribes with his answers thereto; which Report is as follows,

I arrived at Fort Schuylar 1st June an finding no Indians were collected for the purpose of receiving their Rents, dispatched a Messenger to them with the following Letter,

Brothers Sachems & Warriors }
of the Oneida Nation —

You may remember that by the Agreement you made with the Commissioners the twenty secon of September last, You were to receive every year from the State, Six hundred Dollars in Specie, payabl on the first day of June, at this Place; I arrived Yesterday in Order to pay you, Agreeable to the
above

Above mentioned Contract and finding that your Nation have neglected com ing, I have sent the Bearer for the Purpose of requesting you to send such a Number of your Chiefs and Warriors as you may think competent to receive your money and Sign the Receipts for the same. I will expect you Tomorrow and hope you will Attend. If the Onondagas and Cayugas are in your Castle I wish you would mention the same to them, and if they are not on their way I request that a runner may be sent from your Castle to them, to hurry them on, as it will be very inconvenient for me to remain long at this place.

Fort Schuylar }
2nd June 1789. }

I am Brothers Your
Sincere friend
John Tayler

On the third of June the Oneidas arrived and opened the business with a Speech delivered by Peter as follows

Brothers

The first information we had of your coming up was from Captn. Colbreath, which he informed Us would be about the 2nd or 3rd of the Month; since that your Letter of the 1st of the Month mentioned your arrival at this place, we sent the News to the Onondagoes and Cayugas as you desired and come on ourselves. We are glad to see you: but Brother we hear bad News. We are informed that we can have no Provisions and now we are so faint that we cannot Speak to You and our Women and Children are come likewise to see you and are very hungry and have no Provision at home; if you did not intend to give Us some Provisions, You might have sent the Money to Oneida; this is very strange and we are not accustomed to such Treatment.

To which I made the following Reply

Brothers!

You may remember that the Governor, when he took his Leave of You, recommended to you the Cultivation of your Lands & Aſsured you of his Friendship. He mentioned that a Person would attend every Year at this place, on the first day of June, to pay You & that he would not in all Probability meet you at a Treaty in some time; and as the Busineſs I am come upon will not take but a few moments, he could not have thought that you expected to be furnished with Provisions.— If you attend to my Letter you will observe I requested that so many of your Nation might be sent as You thought competent to receive your Rent; I am sorry you have put your Women & Children to the Trouble of coming. I am however glad to see them and have Directions from the Governor to furnish you with some Provisions to refresh you on your arrival, which I will now Deliver you— I have likewise brought up a Quantity of Provisions, at the Request of the Onondaga Nation, a part of which I will spare you, for which You will pay the first Cost & Expence of Transportation.— We will now take a Drink together and after You have refreshed yourselves, I will pay You as soon as You are ready to receive it.

After paying the Oneidas they pro=posed a Meeting and opened the Buſineſs as follows.

Brother!

We have a few things to lay before you, which we wish You to communicate to our Governor;

First; We would enquire of You when our Reservation will be run out and hope it will be according to Ancient Usage, as we are desirous that one or two of our People may accompany the Surveyors when it is done. —

In Answer to which the Surveyor General acquaint=ed them that the Survey would be made this Sum=mer and that he would direct the Surveyor to inform them when he proceeded to lay out their Reservation, so that one or two of their People might attend and see it done.

Second; Brother We mentioned to the Governor last fall at the Treaty, that the State of Pen̄sylvania had ta=ken a Piece of our Land near Oncyhquago, called the great Bend of the Susquehannah, for which we never received any Payment. He promiſed to make Enquiry about it. We want to know if he has received an Answer. —

To which I replied; That I had not heard from the Governor on that subject and that perhaps the Multiplicity of Buſineſs in which he had been engaged this Spring, prevented his attending to this Affair and that I would make him acquainted with their Request.

Third; Brother! here is another matter which is propagated by the Birds and the Voice came so

direct

to give Us some Provisions, You might have sent the Money to Oneida; this is very strange and we are not accustomed to such Treatment.

To which I made the following Reply.

Brothers!

You may remember that the Governor, when he took his Leave of You, recommended to you the Cultivation of your Lands & Assured you of his Friendship. He mentioned that a Person would attend every Year at this place, on the first day of June, to pay You & that he would not in all Probability meet you at a Treaty in some time; and as the Business I am come upon will not take but a few moments, he could not have thought that you expected to be furnished with Provisions. — If you attend to my Letter you will observe I requested that so many of your Nation might be sent as You thought competent to receive your Rent, I am sorry you have put your Women & Children to the Trouble of coming. I am however glad to see them and have Directions from the Governor to furnish you with some Provisions to refresh you on your arrival, which I will now Deliver you — I have likewise brought up a Quantity of Provisions, at the Request of the Onondaga Nation, a part of which I will spare you, for which You will pay the first Cost & Expence of Transportation. — We will now take a Drink together and after You have refreshed yourselves, I will pay You as soon as You are ready to receive it.

After paying the Oneidas they proposed a Meeting and opened the Business as follows.

Brother,

We have a few things to lay before you, which we wish You to communicate to our Governor;

First; We would enquire of You when our Reservation will be run out and hope it will be according to Ancient Usage, as we are desirous that one or two of our People may accompany the Surveyors when it is done. —

In Answer to which the Surveyor General acquainted them that the Survey would be made this Summer and that he would direct the Surveyor to inform them when he proceeded to lay out their Reservation, so that one or two of their People might attend and see it done.

Second; Brother We mentioned to the Governor last fall at the Treaty, that the State of Pensylvania had taken a Piece of our Land near Oneyhquago, called the great Bend of the Susquehannah, for which we never received any Payment. He promised to make Enquiry about it. We want to know if he has received an Answer.

To which I replied; That I had not heard from the Governor on that subject and that perhaps the Multiplicity of Business in which he had been engaged this Spring, prevented his attending to this Affair and that I would make him acquainted with their Request.

Third; Brother here is another matter which is propagated by the Birds and the Voice came so direct that it is distinctly heard and distinguished from mere Report.— Two of our Young men were lately at Niagara and heard Colonel Butler say, in full Council, that the Oneidas had sold all their Country to the Governor of the State of New York;— that they were a poor despicable set of Indians and had dealt treacherously in not remembering their Old friends, and that they would soon be all drove off from their Country by the Governor and that they had no Reservation but a little Pine Ridge on which they now resided.— Coll: Butler then said he had this Information by a Letter from Major Fonda, and as it came so direct by our Young Men and the Birds residing among you, we thought proper to have it communicated to our Governor, altho we cannot believe it, as we cannot think that such were his Intentions.

To which I replied,

Brother! You know that Major Fonda was one of the Lessee Company who bought your lands and has been disappointed by the States not permitting them to hold it— it is therefore not to be thought strange if he is a little angry. You know brothers if you strike a Bird he will flutter and his Voice may be heard a great Way.— To which they replied,

Brother! We thought this to be the Case; it is exactly our Opinion, but we still determined to mention it to our Governor.—

We will now proceed to the Fourth which is of a different Nature, Brother: we were happy to hear in the time of.... the late troubles, that an Alliance had been formed between your Nation and the great King of France and from time to time we heard there would be a lasting Union between the two Nations, and this Alliance would spread its Influence over us all in every Quarter of America and in his Love for us he sent over a great man (meaning Peter Penet) to take Care of our Affairs.

We have heard several times since the opening of the spring that he would soon make his Appearance and the days were named when he would see us in our Country and the great man (meaning the Ambaſsador) and our Mother the French Lady (meaning the Marchioneſs) was to Accompany him up and we expected them previous to your meeting us on this Ground — Now Brother we want seriously to enquire of You if you know any thing of those matters and what is become of our Father Penet. —

To which I replied;

Brothers: I shall endeavour to give You all the Information I can on this Subject, and You may give full Credit to what I say, as I never intend to deceive or mislead you; The Alliance you speak of, is good and has given mutual satisfaction to both Nations — The King of France has an Ambaſsador in our Country, The great man who paid you a Visit last Year with our Governor — but I cannot think that he will attempt to interfere in your Concerns.

Brothers: we have an Ambaſsador in France, You

Would think it strange should he meddle with the Subjects of the King of France; The same Rule certainly holds good as to us.

Brothers! You must see the Propriety of this Remark. I shall therefore say no more on that head. As to your Father Penet (as you call him) I can inform you he has no Public Commiſsion from the King of France: that his first Acquaintance with the Ambaſsador was last Summer at Albany; he came into this Country as a Merchant and has entered into Indian Affairs without any Authority, and you may be Aſsured that no Transaction of a Public Nature has yet paſsed through his hands.

It is reported at Schenectady, that his House is sold and it is not publicly known where he is gone.—

Brothers! The Governor, at the last Treaty, exhorted you to attend to your own Affairs and hoped that you would not be misled by idle & foolish tales, such as might answer to deceive Children, but ought not to be Credited by Men — I wish you may attend to his Advice & keep in the path he placed you.

(The substance of several Matters which the Onondaga Nation requested me to communicate to his Excellency the Governor.

Brother! We expected when We sold our Lands, that the fishing in the Rivers were Reserved to Us, but this Spring a Man has settled at the Onondaga Eel wares near the Croſs Lake and has built himself a house on the very Ground we used to build our Huts for fishing. We enquired who sent him there and he told us he came from Canadasago.

We agreed not to turn him off, but to acquaint our Governor. We hope you will mention it to him and that he will not let any Body settle on our Ancient fishing place. –

Brother! We understood last Fall by the agreement, that no Wood should be cut on the Lands reserved round the Salt Springs; but that the White People might boil Salt for their own Use; but a Man is Settled and built a House and planted a Garden and set up some Kettles and we understand he intends to bring on 80 Kettles more; He says it is by Permission of the Governor. We wish you to mention this thing to him. We have lately received a Letter which we think you ought to see. –

Brother! We have now closed the Business of this Meeting and You have fulfilled the Agreement to our Satisfaction and we hope another revolving Year will bring us together again on the like happy Occasion, and that in some future Year we shall meet with our Governor in Person. + –

I then Addressed the Sachems & Warriors
of the Cayuga Nation (as follows)

Brothers! You no Doubt remember that by the agreement and Sale of Your Lands made at Albany last Winter, the Governor was to pay You 1625 Dollars the 1st of June. As the Promise was made, it became his duty to fulfil it, and I have attended Accordingly on that day with the Money and Provisions you requested might be brought up for you; but not finding you here, I sent a Messenger to You and as he did not return + + + + a favourable Answer, I dispatched your Friend Mr. Ryckman to You: he was taken sick and Obliged to return but sent on my Letter, to –

which

264 Which you listened and I am happy to see you and your Friend Mr. Reed who accompanied you and Aſsisted you on your Journey; but Brothers before we proceed to buſineſs, I must observe to you the Reason why I did not give you any Liquor Yesterday when you came here, was that you had drunk, if not too much, at least enough, I have a great deal of Money for you; and if you drink freely you cannot take care of it. We have bad People among us and perhaps there may be some now on the Ground; they may take the advantage of you, if you get Drunk and take your Money away, and if that should be the Case, it would be worſe for you than if you had not attended at this Place. Brothers we will now take a drink together & I will pay you Your Money so soon as you are ready to Receive it, — and will give you a Keg to aſsist you on your Journey and I hope I shall have it in my power to inform the Governor that you have taken a great part of your Money home — To which the Red Jack replied.

Brother! You have now spoke to us upon the Buſineſs for which we have met at this place, You Congratulate us on our safe Arrival and remarked the Neceſsity of keeping Order, After mentioning your Charge from the Governor; You gave us your Reasons for refusing our People strong Drink; We thank you for this wise Conduct of yours in resisting their Importunities.

Brothers! Poſseſs your minds in peace, as we are Slow in our Deliberation; We are sensible of the agreement made between Us and the Governor of New York last Winter; the Council was called at our ancient place of the Meeting of our Forefathers. This deeply impreſsed on our minds every Article of the Agreement there entred into.

Bro

Brother; Let not your mind be disturbed at our not Appearing here at the time appointed. There were but a few of us Collected at Cayuga, our ancient and beloved place of Residence; We were desirous of having all together before we set out to Meet you; and another Reason of our Delay was this; We were anxious to have an Answer from the Great Council at Buffaloe Creek, as we were informed, after we communicated our Transactions with the Governor of New York to them, that there was a Division among them, and just before we received this Intelligence (Your Meſsage came to us) the Import of which was as follows; That in general they disapproved of our Negotiation; that all Contracts respecting lands should have the Voice of Captain Abeel as Chief of the five Nations now to the Westward; Upon this I called together the Warriors and female Governeſses and all the Women, and laid before them the Meſsage from Buffaloe Creek, and requested their opinion. After much Deliberation they unanimously agreed to abide by the Agreement entered into by the Governor of New York and People of Albany, which was made last Winter; it was the Voice of one and all, that they ought to Support it at all hazards and that we ought to be thankful for Recovering such a part of their Lost Territory & particularly the place that was so dear to their Ancestors (I mean Cayuga) that they must consider this as effected by the Interposition of the Governor of New York: This being our unanimous Agreement We Received your last Meſs-age with pleasure, altho we had many things which Obstructed our Meeting with you previous to that.

Brother! At our return from the Treaty at Albany, we gave a full and faithful Account of the whole Transaction as I promiſsed to the Governor, it appeared to us that the Reserve of so much Land made for Us at the Treaty was the Cause of their Disapprobation at Buffaloe Creek, which was the very thing that rejoiced our hearts and we cannot but be thankful to the great Spirit for keeping us in the Poſsion of our Lands for which we are likewise indebted to the Governor of New York,

Brother! In the Agreement made between Us and the great Chiefs of New York, the Governor, as the Voice of the whole, aſsured us that he was able to protect us in the enjoyment of our Reserve; The Aſsurance that our Mothers the female Governeſses had in his Protection gave them great Joy, as the Proprietors of the Soil whose Happineſs We Sachems and Warriors ought always to consult, and you also exhorted us to the same, therefore when any thing threatens their Peace we share in the Danger. And now Brother we are sorry to tell you, the Scene begins too soon to Change, many of your subjects are now intruding on the Reserve made to our Mothers (and must I tell you) that the Voice there sometimes speaks that the Governor has deceived us and told us lies: This Brother is the Conduct of your own Subjects. Now Brother! This we expect will be communicated to You (Meaning the Governor) as if you were present and now you shall know what our desire is, that you will exert yourself as our great Chief to fulfil your Promises for our Protection.-

Brother Chief! Our female Governeſses have exhorted

Us Warriors to abide by the Agreement entered into by the Treaty last Winter, for in Maintaining them only they can enjoy Peace and we Warriors have engaged to Support them, in Confidence that the great Chief of New-York will fulfil his Engagements; in Testimony of which we present You with this String.

A String of Wampum.

Brother! Open a kind Ear. By the agreement You intred into with my Nation, You restored to us our ancient Fire Place; You gave us (here he described the Reservation) when this Declaration of yours came to us it sunk down with Pleasure into the Bottom of our Hearts. We anticipated the Enjoyment of Peace in the Poſseſsion of our native Places.

Brother! Only fulfil your part of the Engagements.

Brother! When you made this Agreement, we told you that many of our Nation were away to the Westward; that if we could permanently enjoy our Territory they would soon come again; If we could put Confidence in your Promiſses and we hope we will not be disappointed.

Brother! We hope you will remember your Promise to us of enlarging our Reserve, so as to be sufficient for our Brethren from the Westward and not suffer your subjects to encroach upon us, or our People will be discouraged and lose their Confidance in your Protection —— and when you run this out let it be marked so that our Children may not be mistaken in it.

Brother! Open a kind Ear; we delivered some small strings which we delivered in a Wrong place, it should have been to open your Ears. The Belt we now give you is in Confirmation of our present Transactions, for the Governor of New York, on which you will see Represented a female Governess and a Warrior standing near each other expecting to see a fulfilment of the Promise of the Great Chief of New York to their nation — A Belt

To which I Replied.

Brothers! I have carefully attended to what you have now delivered and shall faithfully relate it to the Governor. The Surveyor General has now his people running the Line and some of them will soon be at Cayuga for the Purpose of running out your Reservation; they have a Copy of your Deed and he requests that one of your Nation may attend the Surveyors (who will notify you of their Arrival, to see it done and that you may Assist his people, if they stand in Need of it. He has likewise requested his Surveyors to shew the line to the white people in your Neighbourhood and if any have settled on your Lands they will request them to move off. Brothers! — A Person will attend every Year on the first day of June, for the Purpose of paying You the Money due to You by the State. I hope you will have it in your Power to be more punctual in future and any Complaints you may have will be laid — before the Governor. —

His Excellency the Governor laid before the Board a Letter Signed by Hezekiah Olcott dated at — Onondaga the 20th June and said to be wrote by the Directions of that Tribe and also a Speach from the Oneida Nation Accompanied by a Belt dated at

Kanonwalohale 30th June 1789, and Attested by Samuel Kirkland Missionary which Letter and Speech are respectively as follows Vizt.

Dr Sir Onondaga June 20th 1789,

The Chiefs of this Tribe are now with me who have received four Strings of Wampum from the Buffelow forbidding them to Receive any money or go to Fort Stanwix, that the Govenor of Quebec wanted the Oniidas Lands; and the Onondaga St. John wanted; Colln. Butler wants the Cayuga and the Commanding Officer at Niagara wants the Senecas Reserve: That this gives then great Trouble and they wanted advice what to do and wish for the Governor's Answer by me.

I have given them as my Opinion, that the Lessees are the Cause of their Trouble and that if they would not mind it, the Governor would do them good. It seemed to give them ease and they will patiently wait His Excellency's Answer. It seems they were at a great Loss and wish the Governor would write, which I will see that true meaning is given that they may send their Answer.

I am Yours at Command
Hezh. Olcott

John Tayler Esqr

Kanonwalohale 30th June 1789.

To his Excellency Governor Clinton from the Sachems & Warriors of the Oneida Nation.

Brother, our Governor attend!

Agreeable to ancient custom and confirmed by recent Transactions betwixt our Nation and the People of New York whenever any evil threatens our peace we are to Acquaint you and Apply for that relief and Protection which we may stand in Need of. Therefore

Bro=

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Brother Governor open a listening Ear. We are threatened with Destruction; even with total Extermination. The Voice comes from the West. Its soun is terrible – it bespeaks our Death. Our Brothers the Onondagas and Cayugas are to share the same Fat The News comes direct and Confirmed. If you inqu for the Cause, it is this: That we have disposed of our respective Countries to the People of New York with certain Reserves for ourselves and Posterity, without consulting the Western Tribes; this has wakened up their Resentment to such a Degree that they determined, in full Council at Buffaloe Creek, that we shall be deprived of our respective Reserves with our Lives in the Bargain. This News our Governor may depend upon. This Determination of the Western Tribes has been Communicated to the Superintendant of Indian Affairs in the Province of Quebec, who, as we are told, makes no Objections to their wicked Intention, but rather Countenances them. Brother Governor, now call to mind your former and re-peated Promises to Us for our Protection and Peace. When You planted us under the Emblem of the Tree of Peace in our Territory; if its Fruit should by plucked or its Boughs broke by an evil Spirit or any Enemies whatsoever, your Arm should be extended for its protection, while it fell with all its weight upon the Enemy. To you therefore we repair in our distressed Situation, in full Confidence of that Relief which we may need – You will Consider the destitute condition of our Warriors; unable to equip themselves for Defence; Also the extreme Scarcity of Provisions in our Country. If hunger should help kill

Us while so near our American Brothers, it would be a lamentable Story indeed. — The above delivered in full Council and at the Request of the Chiefs translated an written by

Saml. Kirkland Missy.

Resolved That the Report of Mr. Tayler and the Letter from Hezekiah Olcott and the Speech from the Oneidas be committed to Ezra L'Hommedieu and Abraham Ten Broeck Esqrs. to prepare Answers to the said Letter and such part of the Speeches made to Mr. Tayler as they shall deem necessary.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians within this State at the House of John Tayler in Albany on Monday the 13th July 1789. —

Present

His Excellency the Governor

The Lieutt. Governor	Abraham Ten Broeck &
Samuel Jones	Ezra L'Hommedieu Esqrs.

The Governor laid before the Board a Letter from Joseph Brandt, in behalf of the Mohawk Nation, relative to their Claims to Lands at Canajoharie and a Letter signed by several Indians at Buffaloe Creek in Behalf of the Onondagas, Cayugas, Seneca, and Mohawk Nations of Indians, relative to the late Treaties and Purchases:— which Letters are respectively as follows Vizt.

Sir. Niagara 18th June 1789.

Having before wrote to some of your principal People, on the Subject of our Lands at Canajoharie, which we have never as yet had any Answers to, probably owing to their not having received them; Having a safe Opportunity, beg leave to mention to your Excellency that we are informed a Mr. Klock, who we found troublesome before the Commencement of the late unhappy War, is again Striving to take advantage of us, in Order to deprive us of our Right in that part of the Country, which when at the last Treaty at Fort Stanwix in 1784, You was with a Number more of your principal People kind enough to aſsure Us, as our lands were not confiscated at the Close of the War, we Should not be deprived of our just Right, we therefore look up to your Excellency for Justice and which from your Character we have no Doubt but we will Obtain. The Reason of our not exerting ourselves relative to this Matter before now, was owing to our being employed in Busineſs, in the different parts of this Country, being Obliged to attend at the different Treaties, which has made us neglect paying that attention to our private concerns which we otherwise should have done.

From the great scarcity of Cattle at present amongst us, Owing to our having lost Numbers this last winter, We would wish to dispose of our Canajoharie Lands and would take part Cattle in payment and give a just Deed of the same. Your Excellency being at the head of the State, we have tought proper to first mention it to You and shall wait your Answer, which we hope will be Soon, that an end may be put to the Busineſs.

I flatter myself we will give you every

Satisfaction in any Purchases which may be made from us, as what we ourselves do. We shall wish to abide by

I have the Honor to be
Your most Obed^t hum^l Ser^t.
Jos. Brant — in behalf
of the Mohawk nation

George Clinton Esq^r
Governor of the State
of New York

To his Excellency the Governor of the
State of New York &c^a

Brothers!

We have been informed of the Purchases you made of some of our Young Men, both of the Onondaga and Kayuga Country and we have considered long & seriously on the Consequences that may arise from suffering Individuals (without Authority) to dispose of property that was given by the Great Spirit to our Forefathers and handed down by them to their Children the five Nations in general. We have not been hard with the white People who has made an open and fair Application for lands at our Council Fire; but we have accommodated them and we hold the sales sacred, because it was done in full Council and at a proper place but what is partially Purch^{ed} from Individuals at improper Places, we are bound by the Ancient Customs of our Forefathers to disapprove of.

Brothers! We did not expect that you, after advising us to shun private Treaties with Individuals and avoid selling our Lands to your disobedient Children, that you would yourself Purchase Lands from a few of

Our wrong headed Young Men, without the Consent or even the Knowedge of the Chiefs: therefore we have at present only to communicate our Disapprobation of those Sales and request that You will not make any further Settlements or Surveys on the Lands, till the Money is paid Us agreeable to the Sales we made at Buffaloe Creek last Summer; it is not that we have any Objections to you having the lands; it is equal to us who has it, as we have sold it in publick council at our Council Fire like men and do not mean to deviate from it like Children; but we expect to be paid the Money we then Agreed for with Doctor Benton, and to have the Distribution of it ourselves, and not that a few Individuals shall run away with the whole, to the prejudice of all the five nations & to the Disgrace of your Brothers.

Buffaloe Creek 2nd June 1789.

Sharongyowanon - - - - - - -
Kakondenayer, in Behalf of the
Onondaga Nation - - - - -
Ojageghte, } in Behalf of the
Oghneokwenton, } Cayuga Nation
Ughnenrogewaghs } in Behalf of the
Shentyoghkowadogh } Seneca Nation
Jos: Brant or Tekanaweter in Behalf
of the Mohawks &c. &c.

Resolved, that Samuel Jones and Ezra L'Hommedieu Esqrs. prepare Answers to the said Letters and lay them before this Board with all Convenient speed.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians within this State, at the House of John Tayler at Albany on Tuesday the 14th Day of July 1789.

Present

His Excellency the Governor.

His Honor the Lieut.t Governor	Ezra L'Hommedieu
Abraham Ten Broeck	Samuel Jones Esq.rs

Mr. Jones, and Mr. L'Hommedieu, to whom were refered the several Letters from Joseph Brant, and from the said Joseph Brant and six other Indians at Buffaloe Creek, and from the Sachems, Chiefs & Warriors of the Oneida, Onondaga and Kayuga Nations, reported Answers thereto respectively, which being read and amended Were approved and are as follows.

Brothers!

Your Speach delivered at Fort Stanwix in June was communicated to me by Mr. Tayler Agent to the Commissioners. It informs me that a man has settled at the Onondaga Eel wares, near the Cross Lake and built a House there. - This person has no Right to settle on those lands and you will be justified in turning him off if he will not depart peaceably. I will give Orders to our Surveyors to direct him to depart from that place, and also direct the Surveyor General, in running out the Land, to reserve one Mile Square to comprehend the Eel wares on both sides of the River, for the use of your Nation and such white People as may stand in need of Fish. I have given no Permission to any Person to settle on the lands reserved for common use at the Salt Springs, and no Person shall remain there contrary to the Agreement made between us. Shew this Letter to Major Hardenbergh our Surveyor and he will direct that man to move off when you desire it.

Brother, We hear Provision is very scarce among you; we have therefore sent you some Corn, which will be delivered to you at Fort Stanwix to relieve your present wants and as a Testimony of our Friendship for You

Your friend & Brother
Geo: Clinton.

To the Onondagas.

Albany 14th July 1789.

Brothers Mr. Taylor our Agent, after his Return from Fort Stanwix, delivered to me the Speech of your Nation with a Belt and I was happy to find that your Nation are so well satisfied with the Treaty made with us at Albany last Winter. You may be aſsured that Agreement will be kept inviolate on our part and we make no Doubt but the same will be faithfully observed by you.

I am sorry to hear from you, that some of our disobedient Children intrude on your reserved Lands; listen not to the Birds that tell lies and say you have been deceived. The Mothers, the female Governeſses, the Sachems, and Warriors, may fully rely upon the Governor and Chiefs of New York to fulfil all their Promiſses. They will take effectual Measures to prevent any Intrusion on your reserved Land, and I recommend to you

Not to suffer any white man to settle on your Land. Brothers! I have sent the Surveyor to mark out your reserved Lands, so that they may be always known by you and your Children after you. With respect to the Justice of the Claims of those of your Nation residing at Buffaloe Creek to a proportion of the Purchase Money and the annual Payments you are to receive from the State; This is a Matter you must determine yourselves, but I would advise you to make a fair and Equal Distribution of it according to the Usage of you Nation and agreeable to Justice, for it is righteousneſs that will ensure you the bleſsing of the Great Spirit and cause you to prosper. Brothers! Having understood that Provision is scarce among you, We have sent you a small supply of Corn to Fort Stanwix to Relieve your present wants and as a Testimony of our Friendship for You.

Your Friend & Brother

Geo. Clinton

To the Cayugas.

Albany 14th July 1789.

Brothers!

I have received you Speech of the 30th June transmitted by Mr. Kirkland, I am sorry to hear you are alarmed by the Threats of the Indians to the Westward.

I am persuaded however they will not operate to your Injury. The Indians at Buffaloe Creek have also written to me, but they do not even mention any uneasineſs respecting the Agreement entred into between your Nation and the State. Poſseſs your minds in

Peace therefore, and be Assured that every article promised by the State will be faithfully performed and that we will never deceive or forsake our Brethren the Oneidas as long as they continue to walk in the path of Justice.

Brothers! We exhort you to Sobriety and Industry and to love one another as you expect the blessing and Protection of the Great Spirit.

We hear Provision is very scarce among you, we have therefore directed a small Supply of Corn to be delivered to you at Schenectady to relieve your present Wants and as a Testimony of our Affection and Friendship for you,

Your Friend & Brother
Geo. Clinton

To the Oneidas.

Albany 14 July 1789.

Sir

I have received your Letter of the 18th of June last and have to inform you in Answer to it, that the Lands at Canajaxharie are claimed by private Individuals; many others as well as Clock produce Deeds from the Mohawk Nation for different Parts of the Lands there. Whether these Deeds were fairly obtained or whether the lands there remain unsold I am not able to determine: But if the lands supposed to be unsold are particularly pointed out to me, I will cause an Inquiry to be made into the Matter and see that the Indians have all the Justice done them that they can have any Right to expect.

It is unfortunate and what I could have not expected after the Explanation which took place between Us at Fort Stanwix, that the Indians continue to Treat and make Contracts for lands with Individuals, without the Consent of our Government and against our Laws — and more especially as this Conduct never fails to end to their Disadvantage and Injury.

I have only to add, that I shall always be ready, with the greatest Chearfulness to hear and redress any Grievances the Indians within this State may have cause to complain of, and that I am with great Regard

Your Friend & most
Obed.t Ser.t
Geo. Clinton

To Capt.t Joseph Brant.

Albany 14th July 1789.

Brothers!

I have received a Letter signed by Capt.n Joseph Brant and six other Indians, dated 2nd June last at Buffaloe Creek and said to be in behalf of the Onondaga, Cayuga, Seneca, and Mohawk Nations.

I am sorry to learn that the Agreement entered into by the Cayuga and Onondaga Nations with this State, respecting the lands, should create any Uneasiness in your minds, as I am persuaded that the Treaties which have been entered into by the State with those Indians are much to their Advantage and gave them great Satisfaction. It was not our intention to have solicited the Indians to sell any part of their Lands, as it was not our wish to have extended our Settlements into those Countries; but we were informed that some of our disobedient

Children, contrary to our Knowledge or Consent, had gone among those Nations, had held Treaties with them and purchased all their Lands from them and were making Settlements there in Defiance of our Authority. This gave us much Diſsatisfaction and we clearly perceived that unleſs effectual Measures could be taken to prevent it, this Conduct might disturb the Peace and end in our Mutual Injury.

Brothers This induced me early last Spring to Propose kindling a Council Fire at Fort Stanwix and to invite our Brethern of the five Nations to attend there to consult on the measures neceſsary to be taken to prevent the Evils which threatened us and to promote our mutual Happineſs. Invitations were Accordingly sent agreeable to ancient Usage, to the different Nations, to meet us there in July, but finding that some of the Nations could not conveniently attend at that time. We postpond the meeting until September and gave notice thereof to our Brethern. We attended at the time appointed and found the Onondaga and Oneida Nations waiting for us there. We did not immediately proceed on Busineſs We waited many days in Expectation that our Brethern the Senecas and Cayugas would attend. But finding they were not like to come, we proceeded upon Busineſs and, in full Council, according to the Usage of our Ancestors, after the most serious and Solemn Deliberation, which lasted several Days, we came to an agreement with our Brethern the Oneidas and

Onondagas respecting their Territories, which we are persuaded is for the Interest of both parties, and therefore doubt not it will be lasting. We paid them the Money agreed to be given for the Lands we purchased and shall faithfully, in all Respects, perform the agreement made between Us. Before we left that place we again sent Invitations to our Brethren the Senecas and Cayugas to attend at a Council Fire which we purposed to kindle at this place in the Winter. The Cayugas accordingly came, and the same Reasons which influenced our Treaties with the Oneidas & Onondagas, produced a Simular Agreement with Us and the Cayugas for their Lands. We honestly paid them a part of the Purchase Money, before they left this place, and the Residue we paid them at Fort Stanwix the beginning of June last, according to our agreement, and we cannot but think that they will make such a Distribution of the Money, among those of their Nation who are intitled to it, as is consistent with Justice and the Usage among the Indian Nations. This was our Advice to them, and as far as we can with Propriety interfere we shall always be ready to give our Assistance to see it done. Brothers! We are glad to find that you remember what was mentioned to you at our Meeting at Fort Stanwix in the Year 1784, We wish that you had acted Conformably thereto; we took Particular pains at that time to impress upon your minds the Necessity of conducting according to ancient Usage.

We informed you that to guard against your being deceive or imposed upon, our Constitution and Laws had provided that no Treaties should be held or Purchases of land made from the Indians without the Approbation and Consent of our Legislature; if therefore, after this, any of our People have, contrary to our Laws and the Advice we gave you, sold Lands or made Agreements respecting them to Benton or any other of our People, You certainly cannot reasonably call upon us to see the Agreement with them fulfilled; this would be countenancing a Measure on our Part against our Laws and contrary to the ancient usage that has Subsisted between Us.

Brothers! The Agreement with the Onondagus — Cayugas, and Oneidas, were conducted in an open and fair Manner, agreeable to ancient Usage. We have honestly paid for the Lands we have purchased from them. We are disposed to lend our Aid to accommodate any Difference that may subsist with respect to the Distribution of the Money and we therefore expect that you will not Molest any Persons who may settle upon those lands under the Authority of the State, or give any Interruption to the Surveyors imployed in running them out as this would be acting contrary to Justice and must be considered as hostile against us, and friendly Brothers, we again advise and conjure You not to give any Countenance or listen any longer to Benton, McKenstray, and others of our Disobediant Children that have intruded themselves among

You, least their Artifices should still lead to greater Evils.

We were induced to hope last Winter that Benton and his Company would have given neither you or Us any Further Trouble on this Subject, as they appeared sensible of their Error and accordingly delivered up to us the Deeds they had Obtained from you and Professd penitence for what they had done; had this not been the Case they would have been before this time seriously punished for their Conduct, which has been little Short of Treason against the State.

I am Brothers in behalf of the Commissioners to Treat with the Indians Residing within this State,

Your Friend & Brother
Geo. Clinton

To Captain Joseph Brant
and other Indians of the
Onondaga, Cayuga &
Seneca Nations at
Buffaloe Creek

Resolved that the Governor be requested to sign and transmit the same. Several Accounts having Accrued since the Completion of the Treaty with the Cayugas last Winter particularly in making the Payments to the Different Nations stipulated to be made on the first day of June last, Ordered that the Agent collect and discharge the same, first Submitting them to the Inspection of Mr. Ten Broeck who is requested to examine the said Accounts and Vouchers and see that the Charges are just and proper.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians within this State held at the House of John Tayler in the City of Albany the 15th Day of July 1789. —

Present

His Excellency the Governor.

His Honor the Lieut. Govenor } Ezra L'Hommedieu
Abraham Ten Broeck } Samuel Jones Esqrs.

His Excellency the Governor laid before the Board certain Concurrent Resolutions of the Senate and Assembly of the 14th & 15th of July Instant appropriating six hundred Pounds to Purchase Indian Corn for the Relief of the poor and Distressed Inhabitants and Requesting this Board to pay or cause to be paid to the Treasurers of the several Counties herein after named, respectively the several Sum following to wit; to the Treasurer of the County of Albany one hundred and Seventy Pounds. To the Treasurer of the County of Montgomery the sum of one hundred and Seventy Pounds. To the Treasurer of the County of Washington the sum of one hundred and twenty Pounds; and To the Treasurer of the County of Clinton the sum of fifty Pounds for the purpose aforesaid; and with the Residue of the said sum of six hundred pounds to purchase or cause to be

Pur=

Purchased Corn to be Distributed in such Proportions as they shall direct amongst the Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga, Tuscarora, Mohegan, and Brotherton Indians.

Whereupon Resolved that John Taylor Esqr Agent to this Board, out of the Monies for which he has a warrant from this Board, signed by his Excellency the Governor on the Treasurer, pay to the County Treasurers of the said Counties respectively, the several sums directed to be paid to them by the said Resolutions, on their Applying for the same; and that with the Residue of the said Sum of six hundred pounds he purchase Corn to be distributed to the said Indians in the following proportions and at the following places to wit, To the Oneidas & Tuscaroras 150. Bushels
To the Mohegan & Brotherton 100. Do
To the Onondaga & Cayuga Nation each fifty Bushels, to be delivered at Fort Schuyler.

Resolved that the Governor Certify a Copy of the foregoing Resolution and deliver it to Mr. Tayler.

The Law appointed his Excellency the Governor in Conjunction with other Persons Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians expired the 30th day after a Quorum of both Houses of the Legislature was Assembled at this Meeting in July 1790

Copy of a Letter from Joseph Brant and other Indians to his Excellency the Governor.

Brother: Canadaque 30th July 1789.

We have this day received your Letter

Dated 14th Inst. in Answer to ours of 2nd June; we are very sorry you have paid so little Attention to it. We endeavoured to explain to you that you had not Treated with the Chiefs, nor with Persons Authorised by them to dispose of our Country, but we are now sorry to find you do not wish to be convinced of an Error, which you took no previous Steps to avoid. You say the Treaties you entred into gave great satisfaction to the Indians, and would be much to their Advantage; Undoubtedly a large sum of Money to a few Indians, *void of Principal* would be pleasing and their Ideas of Advantage are but Momentary and never descend to Posterity, and they are too blind to see the Traps laid to disunite the Nations to which they belong. What you mean by offering your Assistance to see the Money fairly divided among those of their Nations who are entitled to receive it, we do not understand, unless you think none entitled to it but those who remain in the Reserved *Trap* and who are intirely in your Power. Our Ancestors made no Distinction in a Nation, they held their Lands in Common, and we do not wish to deviate from their Customs.

Brother! When you proposed a Treaty in July 1788, at Fort Stanwix, we informed you that we should be on Business to the Southward with the Commissioners of Congress; upon which you postponed it till September and then we had not returned; Nevertheless you proceeded to Business (You say) in full Council According to the Custom of *your* Ancestors, After the most serious and Solemn Deliberations; true, it was the Custom of your Ancestors to do

Buſineſs with ours in full Council, but it was not the Custom of our Ancestors to call a Council and treat on Buſineſs of Importance to their Nations and Posterity, without the presence or Knowledge of the Chiefs, nor was it the custom of yours to require it; therefore we now see clearly what we before had only a glimering View of and that your solemn Deliberations were the dictates of Policy and your Determination was to effect a Disunion, which would terminate in our Ruin. Brother! You say you are disposed to lend your Aid to accommodate any Difference in the distribution of the Money and you expect we will not molest your Surveyors &ca or it will be considered as hostile. You also advise and warn us not to listen any more to your disobedient Children, least greater Evils follow. We are not frightened at your threats, nor are we directed by your disobedient Children, but by the feelings of an injured People who seek for Justice; nor are we thirsty for Blood or Warr but our sincere wishes are to live in peace and friendship with our Neighbours and to Obtain that desired Object upon just Principles. It is equal to us who Poſseſs the Country as we have sold it according to our Customs fairly and now only wish to have the Money paid that we may divide it amongst the People who are entitled to receive it, and as for the Reservation we seek no more than we made at Buffaloe Creek. We wrote Congreſs the same time we wrote you and requested that Commiſsioners might be sent either here or at our Council Fire at Buffaloe Creek to enquire into those Differences, that the causes might be removed, and we are anxiously waiting their Answer.

We hope that Congreſs will view our Situation impartially and we presume the world can easily discern that it is not the Good of the State, but self Intereſt, that influences the Proceedings which most affect us. We wish to avoid all kind of Disturbance and Controversy between our People and yours, and to settle all matters with you to our mutual Intereſt and to the Good of Posterity. We do not start Difficulties for trifles, tho never so glaring; We received with Silence your Proceedings in the Shemung Purchase, which was similar to the present; there we saw your disobedient Children treat with a few of our People for a Tract of Country and we saw your State afterwards confirm it. Sooner than disturb that Chain of friendship, which we rather wish to brighten than violate, we overlooked it; but when they (Livingston & Co) made the second Attempt to deceive a few of our Chiefs, out of our whole Country it became alarming and roused the Attention of all our Nations, and in Order to extricate ourselves and relieve some part of our Country, We were Obliged to confirm the sale of the rest tho' contrary to our wish, which will be fully explained when Congreſs think proper to send Persons to enquire into it, but it is too long for the Subject of a Letter. It is hard for us to judge what are the Motives which influence your Proceedings, therefore we wish our Difference to be determined by Congreſs. Perhaps self Intereſt throughout your State is too prevalent to admit of impartial Decision in a Matter where they are so deeply interested.

Brother!

We are of the same opinion now as we were when we wrote before and see more clearly the Attempt on our Disunion, and again request that neither your Surveyors nor Settlers proceed further till an Accomodation takes place. We are Brother with due Respect in Behalf of the five Nations your Obedient and very humble Servants.

Sharonyowanew	Onondagas Chiefs at Buffeloe Creek
Tehodageradon	
Kagondenayen	
Tskanaghqwaghskea	
Athorwine	
Oghniokwendon	
Ojageghte or Fish carrier	Cuyugas Chiefs at Buffeloe Creek
Karonghyageatea	
Kayendadirrhon	
Otsinonwante	
Kayendagonrra	
Karenhton	
Tewataseriyage	
Teyorenhaqwente	
Teyoyaghyagough	
Konenyodee	
Teharaghks	Tehodereghnenons Chiefs at Buffeloe Creeks
Otstenragongh	
Oghenrayiwaghse or Farmers Brother	Senica Chiefs at Buffeloe Creek
Shagoyeghwatha	

Tuyokaraghsere Chief at Cadaragaras

Karontowanen or big Tree
Shigwarentonghkwi or little Beard
Oaghgwadahihea or hot Bread
} Seneca Chiefs at Genesee

Tewaghdaghgote, } Tuscarora Chiefs at Niagara Landing

Oghshigarisere Ditto at Gennesee

Jos: Brandt.

His Excellency's Answer.

Sir, New York 19th Sept^{r}. 1789.

A Letter signed by you and several other Indians and dated at Ca^{na}daque on the 30th July last has been delivered to me. Your signature determins it to be your Act, but I am disposed to consider it wholly as the suggestion of others that those who have subscribed it.

My answer is addressed you solely, to be however communicated to the other Indians.– You must be sensible that a Letter to me so highly exceptionable in every part would not permit me to observe the usual form of answer to those whom we have always called and still would wish to call Brothers.

The Law appointing me and others Commissioners for Indian Affairs has expired; and I have therefore at pres^{nt} neither the means or Authority to hold a Treaty with the Indians; it is notwithstanding my duty to prevent the peace and Rights of the State from being violated:–

The Legislature of the State will meet in January next, when your Letter to me and every other matter Relating to the Subject will be laid before them, and I have an Expectation that they will at leat authorise me to meet such of the Chiefs of the six Nations as may chose to come to Fort Schuylar in June, when the next Annual Payments are to be made to the Oneidas, Onondagas, and Cayugas, in Order that a full Explanation of all the Transaction between those Tribes and the Commissioners in the Purchases of lands may take place. This may be proper to remove what might otherwise be a Cause of secret Dissatisfaction in the minds of some of the Indians. The lands will not be formally Granted and therefore will not be settled very speedily; but the Laws of the State require that in the mean time they should be Surveyed and I must insist that the Surveyors be not interrupted. Should Violences be committed the Aggressor must be answerable for the Consequences, and every Expectation of a meeting, either to accommodate or explain, will thereby be disappointed; and be Assured it will not be considered as possible that the Constitution and Laws of the State should not be maintained and consequently that there never will be an Acknowledgment of the Right to Lands purchased from the Indians without the Consent of the Legislature; but on the Contrary, every Intruder claiming under such a Right —

Must be brought to Justice.

I am Your Most Obedt. Servant

Captain Joseph Brandt

Geo. Clinton

Copy of a Letter from the Oneidas to his Excellency the Governor.

Lettre(1) de la Nation Oneida à leur frer George Clinton Gouverneur en Chef dans l'état de New York, Notre Frere: Toute la Nation pénétré de Reconnoissance profit de l'Occasion de quelques uns des no Chefs qui descendent pour quelques Affaires a New York pour vous avesir la Reception du Grain que vous avez bien voulu leurs freres distribuer et vous en faire leurs tres humbles Remerciemens ainsi qu'a ceux qui ont contribue a une Action ainsi genereuse; tous nos Chefs de Conseil, chefs de guerre vaillands, jeunes gens, femmes et enfans ne cesseront de benis votre Memoire. A Oneida 26 Augst. 1789.

Thonigoin Sohara
Paul Osethogon
John Kouthagera
Petre Oneyanhagh
Hendrick Thanighdolens
Petre Kanadarok
Christian Wasateri

Petre Hagoerontongwas
Minister
Kasawetha

Copy of a Letter from the Oneidas to his Excellency the Governor,

To his Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the State of New York and Admiral of the Navy thereof &c &c.

Brother! This is to inform you our situation, that we the three Tribes of Oneidas are divided into two parties, that is to say. the Sachems follow Mr Peter Penet the Frenchmen's Advice, and we the Chief Warriors and the Majority of our Nation even Women, follow the State of New York. We therefore make a Petition and enquire you, as we look upon you as a true loving Brother, and as you are the Father of the State &c &c &c; Brother, At the first arrival of Mr Peter Penet into our Castle, he delivered his Speech to us (about two years ago) as follows; My Children attend: I am appointed by the Great King and the Marquis de la Fayette as a Deputy Superintendant over some of the Tribes of Indians here in America, I am safely arrived here in your Castle.— The great King of France and the Marquis de la Fayette are long to see You happy. You are now the first Nation I entred into and I see you are happy and glad to see me here and I must therefore choose your Nation to be his Subjects and you must obey what I say to you, because it is from the great King and you must behave yourselves as a People and for that Reason the westward

And

294 And all the other nations of Indians may come and confiderate with you and with Us: I come not to Defraud you about Your Lands (as your Brothers the Americans has done already to you these many times) but I am come here to do you good and make you Sensible what you have already done to your-selves. But if you don't mind what I say to you, your Brothers the Americans will take all your Lands away in a few days, but if you will obey me You'll flourish & be the happiest People in America. Brother, But now Mr Penet informed Us this Spring that he was sent by the Ambaſsador who now Resides in New York; on that Busineſs, Mr Penet at the same time begs of Us a piece of Land by Dream which was granted & ten Miles Square North of the Oneida Lake the some of us remember his several Speeches and try to stop our Lands but could not prevail.

Brother! We therefore beg your Excellency to enquire that whether this Penet is Authorised by the King of France or no, to do public Busineſs to the Indians or to the Oneidas only. But if these important Affairs are unknown to you, You will be pleased to make enquiry of the Ambaſsador whether these things are so or not. And if he is appointed by the King and by the Marquis and then what made him delay coming to us and is unknown to us and this is what made us to distrust him. as for the Agreement made between us and You We the Chiefs Warriors are firmly united to all our Transactions and we are sensible & very well known that there is one authorised from the king of France to act and transact with the United States— that is the Ambaſsador and that there is no other Ambaſsador besides him that we know of.— And another thing we would let you know that there is a French Priest arrived in this place and told us he was sent by the Ambaſsador, According to the desire of some of our Sachems; which We afraid that our divisions will grow worse & worse both in temporal and spiritual, for we wish to have but one sort of Religion & Minister, that is Mr Samuel Kirkland. Further we would let you know that our Sachems have sent a letter to the Ambaſsador in a private manner, refuse to let us know what they say in their Letter, but what we write to you we do it at our Council Fire, therefore we wish that the Ambaſsador should know that what our Sachems write to him is not from the whole Nation.

Done in Council at our Council house of Oneida this twenty third day of August one thousand seven hundred and eighty nine,

John Jury
Aghwistonnish
Hendrick Kayeadago
Augustus Kanyeagiton
Wm. Shaghtaghqwisse
Thomas Areaghhoktha
Daniel Skennodoa
Peter Otsiletuta
Jacob Arighwagenhas

Jacob Dahstater
Wm. Karighlotashon
Hendrick Shaghhonevati
Cornelius Dawine
Powles Ahentyakhen
Ademris Rotshiorhen
Peter Kanento
Cornelius Shagorothease
Thomas Kamonghjase
Hanes Oghneghtago
Cornelius Otatsheghte

According to the desire of our Bretheren we will testify that in our presence this day they have given a true Account of this Situation.

Hendrick Aupaument } Onoughsawenghte
John Potapmin } Tyoreaghhaywente
Tharondaiwagon } Deghhanagreghgon

Sachems of the Mukheaconnick Tribe and of the Teskarories. &c.

Attest) Jacob Reed, alias Otseaktatye.

Copy of a Letter from James Livingston Esquire to his Excellency the Governor.

Johns Town County of Montgomery
30th. August 1789.

His Excellency George Clinton.

Sir.

Colo. Louis and three others of the Oneida Nation, having been sent to me by the Chiefs of said Nation with a complaint against the State Surveyor for exceeding the bounds of the Territory purchased from them by the Commissioners in Behalf of the State, I have advised them to wait on your Excellency and inform you of the particular Circumstances relative thereto and have no doubt but a line from you to the Surveyor (without the Interference of the Legislature) will be sufficient to set matters right. - As I am unacquainted with the boundary of your Purchase, must refer You to Coll. Louis for further Particulars and I am

Your Excellency's
Most Obedt. Servant
Jas. Livingston.

194. His Excellency's Answer to the Oneidas 297.

Brothers! New York 12. Septr 1789.

I have received your Letter and I shall now now give you an Answer. Mr. Penet is only to be considered among you as an adventuring Merchant pursuing his own private Interest. He holds no Office, nor does he sustain any Public Character in this Country; his Attempts to deceive you therefore, when he says he is sent by the King of France and the Marquis De la Fayette to Transact business with you; You ought not to listen to his Speeches, or pay any regard to his Dreams. The King of France is our good friend & Ally, he has an Ambassador here (whom you saw with me at Fort Stanwix last Fall) to transact Business and maintain Friendship with the United States; but he has nothing to do with any particular State or the Indians residing within it. You must not therefore believe Mr. Penet when he says he is sent among you by the Ambassador. I presume, the Priest now with you came at the Request of Mr. Penet and his Friends. They have a right to worship God in the manner most agreeable to them, but I approve of your Determination to adhere to your old Minister, for I fear the Preaching of Different Doctrines among you will only serve to perplex and puzzle your understandings, and Divisions either with respect to your temporal or Spiritual Concerns may prove dangerous to your Welfare and Prosperity.

Brothers! I am happy to hear that you are firmly united as to our late Agreement and you may rest Assured that it will be faithfully observed on the part of the State. Let me exhort you to Sobriety and Industry, for it this alone, by the blessing of the Great Spirit, that can secure to you Comfort and Happiness.

I am your
Friend & Brother
Geo. Clinton

New York 12th Sepr 1789.—

Brothers!

A Letter which I have received from Colonel James Livingston, dated the 30th of last month, mentions that Col. Louis and three others of the Oneida Nation had been sent to him with a Complaint from your Chiefs against the Surveyor employed by the State for exceeding the bounds of the Lands lately ceded by your Nation to the State— I am much surprized at this Information. We certainly understood each other well at the late Treaty. We had a Map of the Lands there on which the line of the Territory ceded and the Lands reserved for your Use were marked and the Boundries mentioned in the Deeds, which we then respectively executed, exactly correspond with the lines agreed upon. You will recollect that at first there was some Disagreement between us on this Subject, but that it was finally settled to the mutual Satisfaction of both Parties.

Our Surveyor has a Copy of the Deed of Cession and of the Map used at the Treaty with him, and he is directed to run out the Lands reserved for your Nation exactly agreeable thereto. I cannot conceive therefore how any uneasiness or Difficulty can arise on this Subject, if he pursues his Directions, which I presume he will. If however any mistake should take place, I shall be able to discover it, when he makes a return of this Work to me, and it shall be corrected, as I am

Determined that the Agreement between us Shall be faithfully carried into Execution, and the strictest Justice done to you.

I am happy to hear that you have received the Corn which I directed to be delivered to you and I hope that by the Blessing of the Great Spirit and your Industry that you will not again experience so great Hunger and Want.

I am your
Friend and Brother
Geo. Clinton

To the Oneidas.

Copy of a Letter from three of the Oneidas to His Excellency the Governor.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the State of New York, Chief commander of the Militia and Admiral of the Navy of the same &c. &c. &c.

Brother! We your Brothers the chief Warriors did send a letter a few days ago to your Excellency, wherein we informed you that we the Oneidas are divided into two parties, the Sachems and some of the Warriors are for the French that is to say Peter Penet and we some of the Chief Warriors are for the State of New York &c. &c. and this is now to inform you again, that we the Warriors are sorry for our Situation. We conversed with our Sachems Yesterday, in Order to unite again; but our Sachems spoke to us contrary to our opinion, They say they will make us Sensible of our Error at Mr. Penets Return from Jamaica and cannot make up with us at present. Brother, We will remember all our Agreements and Transactions with you and will hold it as long as we can, tho' our Sachems blame us a good deal about our Errors, but we the Warriors are sensible that our

Sachems do err in trusting so much to Mr Penet. Our Sachems have granted another piece of Land to one of Mr Penets men near Canasorage about one mile square besides the five Miles square granted to Mr Penet without our knowledge, which did hurt to our Nation good deal, we therefore beg you not to establish, if this French People should come to you in Order to have You to confirm their Deeds, because it is not from the whole Nation. And we will not dispose of any of our reserved Lands. —

Oneida September 20, 1789.

Attest
Jacob Reed Clk.

Raghwistonnisk
Tskadekarunghhis
Thanyeatakayon

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Copy of a Letter from the Oneidas to his Excellency the Governor,

To his Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the State of New York and commander of all the Militia and Admiral of the Navy of the same &c &c &c

Brother! We received your Answer the 16th of this Month dated the 12th of September last, to which we are happy to hear the truth that Mr Penet is nothing else but a Merchant pursuing his own Interest.

We and our Sachems were all together and Colonel Louis was present when your Letter was delivered, but could not persuade our Sachems and Louis to make them believe your letter and tho' they believed your hand writing, yet they still hold Mr Penet that he is sent from the King of France and Louis is trying to scare Us and said that he would make us sensible in a few Days and would make us sorry because we dont believe Mr Penet.

We

2d. We are much surprised of his Interruption, and further he says in the Council, that he will make us sleep very fast so that we cannot wake up again and we look upon our Sachems they are still the same as they were in the first of our Division or worse, quite contrary to our opinion; and the said Louis blames us much and said we did send for him from Canada the Beginning of the late War, therefore he tought then that we would mind what he would say to Us; but we say he is mistaken about that: The continental Commissioners of Indian Affairs did send for him; this said Louis has despised the Governor and can't deny it; But when we told him he should not despise the Governor, he said he would do it before your Excellency. - and he added & said to us "You had despised Mr Kent because you will not believe him, therefore you shall not expect any presents of him at his Return and let Governor Clinton give you presents more then you ever had; you think you are free People, but I say you are Slaves to the State of New York; but if you are free from the State, I myself will make you Slaves. Let your Minister Mr Kirkland prove that you are free." Brother! We remember all our Transaction of the late Treaties, you always tell us that we are free people and we look on our Nation are free People; can Coll. Louis make us Slaves, when he is a Stranger to Us? Can a single Stranger make a Nation Slaves? We think it's too impossible. We never and cannot recollect whether we ever gave him Commission to reign over us as a King.

Brother! we are little sensible that we have a little kind of Slavery. Our Neighbouring Brothers the white people do not use us very well, our Young Warriors were among them; when the White People saw our Indians they kill their Neighbours Hogs and told their Neighbours that the Indians did it and so our People were put to Trouble for it. So Brothers we wish you would stop you People of serving us so.—

Oneida Octr. 28. 1789.

John Jiry
Blacksmith
Tshadekarenghkes
Akentyakhon
Ttanyeatahayon
Oghtatshenghte
Attest
Jac: Reed Clk.

Arighwagentha
Shagoyaghtorghhere
Dekanaghtsiasne
Peter Otsiquette
Cwearghhoktha
Owayaghse
Thaswenkarorus

The Law appointing His Excellency the Governor in conjunction with others Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians was revived on the 28th January 1790.—

At a Meeting of the Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians within this State held at the City of New York on the 29th January 1790.—

Present
His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Mr. Lawrence
Mr. Floyd
Mr. L'Hommedieu

Mr. Hathorn
Mr. Benson
Mr. Varick.

His Excellency the Governor laid before the board, several Papers, from which it appeared probable that several Individual Indians of the Cayugas and Oneidas who had resided at Buffaloe Creek were on their way to this City, in Order to make an Application either to the Legislature or to the Board. The consideration of these Papers was referred until Tuesday next.

Tuesday Feby. 2nd. 1790.

The Board met

Present

His Excellency the Governor.

Mr. Jones
Mr. Benson
Mr. Hathorn
Mr. Floyd
Mr. L'Hommedieu

It appearing probable that some Indians will soon arrive in this City and the Revd. Mr. Kirkland appearing before the Board.

Resolved that he be requested to remain in this City until the further Order of the Board. That he be paid £50. on Account and that his Excellency the Governor Iſsue his Warrant on the Treasurer in his favour for the said Sum. Mr. Kirkland delivered to the Board the following Letter from two Seneca Chiefs.

Kanadasegea 10 Decemr. 1789.

Brother! Governor of New York Attend!

I have received your Meſsage by the Mouth of our Friend the Minister. In your Speech you wish to know of Us Senecas if we have any farther Demands upon you for the lands about Newtown on the Teyaogea; or if our Nation have any ancient Claim to any Lands East of the line of Ceſsion made by New York to

Massachusetts, to which Line Mr Phelps lately purchased of our Nation, and on Condition it should be made to appear that our Nation have any just claim to any Lands East of the aforesaid Line. The Governor is disposed, in Behalf of the People of New York to make them a just Compensation, for he would not have the Senecas nor any Indians wronged out of one Foot of their Lands.

Brother Governor! This You desire to know. I thank you Brother for the just and good mind you manifest towards Indians. Brother Possess your mind in peace; Our Indians are all on the Hunt: only one Chief left at home with me, but I can give you full Satisfaction on the Subject of your Speech. "We formerly claimed a small tract of Land about Newtown on the Teyaoga and the Cayugas, by ancient Tradition, claimed a Tract towards Lake Ontario West of the line of Mr Phelps's Purchase. We Senecas with the Cayugas taking this matter into Consideration, at our Council held on Buffaloe Creek last Spring, mutually and unanimously agreed that Mr Phelps's East Line should be the boundary line betwixt Us.

We Senecas relinquished all claims to any Lands East of said line, and the Cayugas relinquished all their former pretensions to any Lands West of said line; Therefore we have no Demands upon the People of New York for any Lands East of the Line run by Mr Phelps's. We Nevertheless expect You will make the Cayugas a reasonable Compensation which in Your Wisdom & Righteousness you will determine. We wish Prosperity to Your

Governor

Government. Brother Governor this is all I have to say:
Farewell

Kalondowdnea }
alias Big Tree }
Sagoyadyastha.

Translated and wrote by Samuel Kirkland Missionary and to the Justness of the Translation he can make Oath, if required.

In Presence of
Seth Reed
Joel Prescott.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians within this State held in the City of New York Feby. 9th. 1790

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Mr. Hathorn } { Mr. Jones
Mr. L'Hommedieu } { Mr. Benson

Resolved, that his Excellency the Governor be requested to sign the following Representation in Behalf of the Board and lay the same before the Legislature Viz.

The Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians conceive it their Duty respectfully to represent to the Legislature, that the only Consideration with them in Assenting to the Stipulation in the late Treaty with the Cayuga Indians, for a Grant of the Lands therein for that Purpose Specified to Peter Ryckman, was to compensate the said Peter Ryckman and also Seth Reed for their joint Services to the State in effecting a Meeting between the Commissioners and the Cayugas; that during the Negociation with the Cayugas the said

Peter Ryckman informed the Commissioners and the Commissioners are persuaded that the Matter was likewise so understood by the Cayugas themselves, that the said Seth Reed was, in Consequence of an Agreement between him and the said Peter Ryckman, to have a share of whatever Lands might be granted as a Compensation as aforesaid. That the said Seth Reed not being present, it was upon the whole supposed most adviseable that the Stipulation should in the Treaty appear to be made in favour of the said Peter Ryckman solely, in full confidence however and on a Solemn Assurance from the said Peter Ryckman, that the said Seth Reed should have a share of the said Lands, Pursuant to the said agreement between them. That the Commissioners have Reason to believe that the said Peter Ryckman, should a grant pass to him alone for the said Lands will appropriate the whole thereof to his sole Benefit whereby the real Intent of the said Stipulation will be defeated and the said Seth Reed greatly injured: to prevent such Injustice therefore, the Commissioners suggest the propriety of a Provision in the Act to be passed for granting the said Lands Authorizing the Commissioners of the Land Office to enquire touching the said Agreement and thereupon to grant the said Lands to either of them the said Peter Ryckman or Seth Reed solely or such part thereof in severalty or such undivided proportion thereof to them Respectively as the Commissioners shall deem Justice between the said Parties to require.

Friday 12th February 1790. A.M.

The Board met. Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Mr Lawrance	Mr L'Hommedieu &
Mr Benson	Mr Jones . . .
Mr Floyd	. . . .

Mr Kirkland appeared before the Board and informed them that Col. Hanseury, Paulus, Anthony, Big Bear, Capt. Jacob Reed, Cornelius, Nicholas, and Jacob Col. Louis Cook. and French Nicholas were arrived in this City from the Oneidas and were at the Inn kept by Mr. Myers.

Resolved that Mr Kirkland be authorized to agree with Mr Myers to subsist the said Indians during their stay in this City, on the most reasonable Terms.

Friday 12th February 1790. P.M.

The Board met

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton

Mr. Floyd	Mr. Jones
Mr L'Hommedieu	Mr. Varick
Mr Benson	and
Mr Lawrance	Mr. Hathorn.

The Indians, whom Mr Kirkland this Morning informed the Board had arrived in this City, appeared before the Board and after the usual Congratulations the Indians from Oriskany Village made a Speech, of which the following is a Translation Viz.

With great pleasure and equal Sincerity we Congratulate the Governor of New York, whom we all of the Village of Oriske wish to address, Brother Governor! We request your attention to a Matter concerning which we wish to enquire of you.

The Chiefs cannot find nor recollect any thing of the writing which points out the Sale of the Lands in the Oriskene Village. Moreover at the Treaty held by Sr. Wm. Johnson in 1768. at Fort Stanwix, this Land was made a Subject of Conversation at that time, when Sr. William replied that we Oriskes should remain the Proprietors of said Land — Viz: A Tract of four Mile Square, two miles wide on each side of the Oriskene Creek, and four Miles South. This is the Dimension of the Tract which Sr. Wm. Johnson said should remain the Property of the Oriskes. —

Brother Governor! we have accordingly considered ourselves as the owners of* the aforesaid Tract; for we never deserted or flung away our Country during the late war. We would now a little divert the Subject and pray you to take care of your Subjects who have already Surveyed along the side of the Flats, and say they have done it by your Authority, and are even making Settlements upon the — aforementioned Lands, But we apprehend Brother that you never gave any such Orders. We love our Land, considering it as our Property. In the same Style were We addressed by our Superintendant Genl. Schuylar during the late War, that we should be happy and retain our Property if we conquered the common Enemy.

Brother Governor! We entreat You to give Us a Writing securing to us our Claim at Oriske, and then we may point out to your Surveyors the particular bounds whenever they shall want to Survey near us and such as have already settled on our Lands will undoubtedly remove so soon as we shall be thus secured in our Property: This Brother, is all we have to say of the Village of Oriske. Oriske Jany 26th 1790–

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

The Oneidas then delivered to the Board the following Message.

His Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the State of New York and Admiral of the Navy of the same &c

Brother! We the Sachems and Chief Warriors of the Oneida Nation take this Opportunity to address you in Writing. We hope you will attend to our words. When you kindled the late Council fire at Fort Schuyler and called Us to sit around it with you; We were told that our Interest as well as yours was to be consulted and that our mutual happiness and Prosperity was to be the Object of the Treaty. It is unnecessary to repeat all what was said on the Occasion; You have it all in Writing. We returned home possessed with an Idea that we had leased our Country to the People of the State, Reserving a Rent which was to increase with the increase of the Settlements on our Lands until the whole Country was settled, and then to remain a standing Rent for ever. This Brother was our Idea of the matter. We supposed that we had at the same time Reserved a sufficient Tract of Country for our own Cultivation: But since we had time to consult the Writings and have them properly explained and have seen the proceedings of your Surveyors, We find our hopes and Expectations blasted and disappointed in every particular. Instead of Leasing our Country to you for a respectable Rent, We find that we have

Ceded and granted it forever for the Consideration of the inconsiderable Sum of six hundred Dollars per Year. We find our Reserve much smaller then we expected, as your Surveyors, by beginning at a wrong place, different from what was agreed on, have run the East and West line almost by our Doors. Brother, Tho' the agreement is so very different from what we supposed at the time, yet as we have no hopes that the State will ever relinquish so advantageous a Bargain, we do not ask it. We only ask such an Addition to the Consideration Money as may amount some where near to a Compensation for the Cession of so large and fine a Country. As to our Reserve we request that the lines may be run according to agreement. We mean particularly the East and a certain place on the Unadalla Creek called Olstonghregowa or the Great Rock: Brother, We look to you to see that Justice is done in that Respect. We ask for nothing more, we wish to live in Peace and Quietneſs. We are free People: You have ever acknowledged it. We choose to regulate our Affairs and to conduct our Concerns by the Rules and maxims of our Ancestors, without being Governed by the Laws of our Brothers the white People, which are not calculated for a People so little civilized as we are. Done in Council this twenty seventh day of January one thousand seven hundred and Ninety

Witneſses
Sharondawagon
James Root

John Skenodoa
Aghwistonnish
Kaghnenda
Agwirondongas
Oghneyanka

Kaghsaweda
Kaghnedoreas
Roghnketyea
Kaghnatstis

The Oneidas also delivered to the Board the following Message.

Brother! You must very well know that there is a certain Vacant of the Lands you bought of us at the Treaty of Fort Harkemar some years ago. You promised then that you would send a Letter to the Governor of Pensylvania in Order him to buy the said Vacant Land, and since that we have made several Enquiries to You and then informed us that you did not send the Letter and since that Peter Penet informed Us (who was in Philadelphia the Winter before last) the Governor of that State told him that the Governor has paid his part, three thousand Spanish Dollars and has Delivered the said money to You for Us.

Brother! We therefore wish You to send the said Money to us by the Chief Warriors who are now going to You: You will likewise pay Us and send them to the said Attem. Brother the lands which we Leased to Mr Armstrong he Refuses to pay Us the Rent, except you Order him. Brother We must tell you all our Difficulties; Your Surveyors surveyed wrong from the Deep Spring contrary to our Agreement. Our Warriors will inform you where this line ought to run. His Excellency the Governor laid before the Board the following Letter from some of the Onondagoes to him.

To His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Brother! We the Onondaga Chiefs desire You that you would be so good as to remove Major Danford who resides in our Castle. We have found fault with him, And we further desire that in June next when we shall draw our pay. We wish you Order one Horse to deliver to us, and the rest all in Cash. This is all we have to say.

Kahiktoton

Onondaga

Thonwasqiwenton

Jany. 1st 1790

Onasateken

Anyeate

His Excellency the Governor laid before the Board the following Letter,

White's Town Jany 29. 1790

Sir

A Number of the Oneidas are now here on their way to New York, they say on Business of Importance. They request me to inform your Excellency that they propose to arrive the Day after this is presented & beg that Quarters may be prepared ready for their Reception. I am &c.

With Sentiments of Respect
Your Excellency's
Most Obedt Servant
James Dean

Governor Clinton.

Sir

Hansyost an Indian of the Kayuga Tribe who resides at Oneida was on his Way to New York to Obtain from your Excellency a Patent for a Tract of Land reserved for his use by the Kayuga Nation, in the sales made by them to the State. I have prevailed on him to return and have Assured him that the Indians who go to New York can negotiate his Business as well as if he was present, at the same time informed him I had my Doubts whether there was any hopes of his procuring a Grant for Lands, as no Reservation is made for him in the Deed from the Kayuga Nation: Your Excellency will no doubt Explain the matter in such manner as will satisfy Hansyost; and if a Tract is to be granted to him, I shall take care to forward the Patent should it be transmitted to me.

I am Your Excellency's
Most obedt. Servant
John Tayler

Albany 6th Feby
1790

Governor Clinton

Saturday 13th Feby 1790

The Board met

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton

Mr Floyd } { Mr Hathorn
Mr Benson } { Mr L'Hommedieu

The several Indians who met the Board yesterday also met the Board this day, when a Conference was held between them and the Commissioners touching the Matters mentioned in the Messages delivered in to the Board Yesterday, and a full explanation took place between the Board and these Indians of the Deed of Cession executed by the Oneidas at the last Treaty held at Fort Schuyler; and Also of all the Transactions between the Commissioners and the Oneidas, not only at that Treaty, but also at every other Treaty held with the Oneidas since the War, with which the Indians who were now present before the Board appeared fully satisfied, and that the several Matters of Complaint and Request contained in the Messages from the Oneidas were without Foundation.

Monday Feby 15. 1790.

The Board met

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton

Mr. Jones
Mr. Varick
Mr. Hathorn
Mr. Benson
and
L'Hommedieu

His Excellency the Governor informed the Board that he had been to the Secretary's Office and taken Han Juery with him and shewn to him the Indian Deed for the Lands at Oriskany, and that the Deed being inspected by Han Juery and interpreted to him by Mr Kirkland, he appeared to be satisfied that the Indian Right to the said Lands was extinguished, and only requested that he and his Tribe might be permitted to remain on the Land until they could conveniently remove and that the Proprietors would make them some Compensation for their Improvements.

Resolved, that the following Message be sent to the Oneidas:

Brothers, Sachems, Chiefs and Warriors of the Oneidas attend to what the Governor and other Commissioners in Behalf

Of the People of the State of New York shall say to you, in Answer to your Message delivered to Us by our Brothers the Big Bear, Paulus, Cornelius, Antony and Jacob Reed, —

Brothers! We have met our five Brethren above named, and also our Brother Lewis Cook, Han Juery, Jacob and Nicholas Jordan in this City and kindled up a Council fire and joined in thanks to the great Spirit who had brought us together in peace, and who had preserved you who remained at Home in Health. —

Brothers! After smoking our pipes, together we had a Talk with our Bretheren above named and we have told them all that has passed between you and us since the War and they say they know it all to be true as we have told them, and they will tell it to You truly.

Brothers! You say there was some Mistake or misunderstanding in the Covenant which we entered into at Fort Schuyler in the Fall of the Year one thousand seven hundred and eighty eight, about the Annual Sum which we were to pay to you and about the Boundries of the Land which was to be reserved for your own use, and also that our Governor has received Money for You from the Governor of Pennsylvania.

Brothers! Hear what we have to say in Answer to this. We have shewn to our Brethren above named, the same Map which we had at the Treaty at Fort Schuyler, on which was laid down the Limits of the Land which was to be Reserved for your own Use, and which Map we shewed to you and you told us you understood it; before you executed the Deed of Cession it was interpreted to you and you said you Understood it; and we told you the Annual payment would always be Six hundred Dollars and no more. Our Brethren above named now here present say all this is true and so they will tell you. By the Deed of Cession you have a Right to make Leases of part of the Lands reserved to yourselves. These Leases may produce to you an increasing Rent. —

Bro

Brothers! The People of Pennsylvania say that they do not owe you any Money for Land and our Governor has never received any Money from them for You. Brothers! The Covenant between you and Us at Fort Schuyler in the Fall of the Year one thousand seven hundred and eighty eight was according to ancient Custom put in Writing, that it might not be forgotten or misunderstood. We gave you one Copy and we kept the other, and we have now again compared them together, they perfectly agree and this Covenant, as it was so written, we told you and you said it was as much for your Good as our own, and so it will be and must therefore remain between Us for ever and unaltered.

Brothers! Listen to our advice; all the words in your Messages are not good; nor such as one Brother would speak to another. We do not believe they are your own Words, but the words of some wicked People who come among You to make you uneasy and who want to get from you the Land which you have reserved for your own Use— We advise you to be on your Guard against these People. do not listen to them— do not suffer them to come amongst you. By the Covenant between you and us You are not to sell any of the lands which are reserved for your own use, and if any of your People should sell any part of that Land, we will take care that the Person to whom they sell shall not have Patents or be suffered to settle on the Land.

Brothers! We again exhort You to peace and unanimity among yourselves— Suffer not the stories of the little Birds or any Difference in Religious Matters to interrupt + your Harmony— Remain united; bring your Pipes together and consult for your Common good, as your ancestors did, and like them you will prosper. Do not believe any Person who shall tell you that your Brothers the Great Council of the State mean to injure You— They have your Interest and happiness at Heart and there is nothing in the Covenant between you and us to take away from you any of your ancient Priviledges. We are your Brothers

Signed in Behalf of the
Commissioners
Geo. Clinton

Resol

Resolved that his Excellency the Governor, Issue his Warrant on the Treasurer, in favour of Mr Varick for the sum of eighty pounds, to be expended by him as the Board shall direct. The Commissioners then presented to the Indians now present a piece of Strouds and to each of them a Blanket and divided among them the sum of £20..8..0.

Ordered that Mr Varick pay to Elting & Varick the sum of Thirteen pounds fourteen Shillings and six pence for the Strouds and Blankets.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners in the City of New York. Feby 27. 1790.

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton

Mr Floyd Mr Varick Mr Benson	Mr Jones and Mr L'Hommedieu

The Account of James Myers for Subsisting the Indians while in this City Amounting to £27..18..8, and an Account of John Simmons amounting to £13.0.6 for Expences attending the Meeting of the Commrs. were respectively pre to the Board.

Ordered that the same be paid by Mr Varick:

Resolved that Egbert Benson, Samuel Jones, & Richard Varick be a Committee to Collect the Amounts of the Board & to effect a final settlement of the Accounts of the Board with the State.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners held in the City of New York 2d April 1790.

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton

Mr Varick Mr L'Hommedieu Mr Lawrance	Mr Hathorn Mr Jones & Mr Benson

Resolved that a Message be sent to such of the Chiefs and 165 Sachems of the Onondagas and Cayugas as were not present at the Treaties heretofore held with the Commissioners, requesting them to meet the Commissioners at a Treaty proposed to be held at Fort Schuyler on the first day of June and that a Letter as from the

Governor be sent to Captn Brant requesting him and such other of the Mohawks as he may be able conveniently to Assemble to Attend at the said Treaty and that Mr Tayler be employed to convey the said Message and Letter, and be also instructed to indeavour to accomplish the Object proposed to be Accomplished by the Commissioners at the ensuing Treaty, and that Mr Varick Mr Laurance, and Mr Benson be a Committee to prepare and report the Draft of the said Message, Letter and Instructions—

At a Meeting of the Commissioners held in the City of New York 8th of April 1791 —

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton

Mr Floyd	Mr Jones
Mr Varick	Mr Benson and
Mr Hathorn	Mr L'Hommedieu

The Committee appointed on the 2d Instant to prepare Drafts of the Message to the Chiefs of the Onondagas and Cayugas and the Letter from his Excellency the Governor to Capt Brandt reported the Drafts, which being agreed to by the Board are respectively as follows.

To such of the Sachems, Chiefs and Warriors of the Onondagas and Cayugas who were not present at the Treaties held with these Nations at Fort Schuyler in the year 1788 and at Albany in the year 1789.

Brothers! There was a Council Fire held at Fort Schuyler in the Year 1788 between us and our Brothers the Onondagoes and another Council Fire was kindled at Albany in the Year 1789 between Us and our Brothers the Cayugas, and Covenants were made between us and them. They gave us their Lands, except what they chose to keep for their own Use, and we gave them Money, Clothing and Provisions and we agreed to pay to them Annually a Sum of Money forever— You doubtless have heard of these Covenants.—

Brothers! These Covenants were intended as much for the Advantage of the Onondagoes and Cayugas, as for the Advantage of the State of New York, and our Brothers the Onondagoes and Cayugas, who were present at these Council Fires, declared that they fully

Understood these Covenants.

Brothers! From some Messages which we have received from some of You it would seem that you are not perfectly satisfied that your People have made these Covenants with their Brothers the People of the State of New York.

Brothers! It has always been the Custom between your Ancestors and ours, whenever there was any Uneasiness between them, to meet together at a Council Fire and smoke their pipes together, and to open their minds to each other and so they always were in peace and Friendship.—

Brothers! This was a good Custom and we hope it will be forever observed, and therefore we wish to meet a Convenient Number of You, and who may be Authorised to represent and Transact Business for the whole of you, at the Council Fire which we propose to kindle at Fort Schuylar on the first day of June next. We will then fully relate to You all that passed between Us and our Brothers of the Onondagoes at Fort Schuylar in the Year 1788 and our Brothers the Cayugas at Albany in the year 1789 & We will shew to you the Covenants we made with them, as they were put down in Writing and we will do what you can reasonably expect from Us, so that You may afterwards possess your minds in peace.

Brothers! We shall come to Fort Schuyler prepared to stay there only about a Week, as the other Public Business of the State will not permit Us to be absent longer, and We must therefore request you to be there at the time appointed.

Brothers! We pray the great Spirit to preserve both You and Us in Health and Peace until we meet—

Sir

I wrote to you on the 19th September last and to that Letter I now particularly refer You.

The Legislature of the State have since continued the Commissioners in Office and they will be at Fort

Stanwix on the 1st of June next, at which time and place it will be Agreeable to them to meet You & such other of the Mohawk Nation as you may think proper should accompany You.

By the same conveyance by which you will receive this Letter, the Commiſsioners have sent an Invitation to such of the Onondagoes and Cayugas as were not present at the late Treaties held with these Nations, to meet them at Fort Stanwix, at the same time; but have mentioned to them that the Commiſsioners will come prepared to stay about one Week only, as the other Public Buſineſs of the State will not permit a longer Absence and I have thought proper to give You this Intimation in Order that You may be there as punctual as poſsible.

Geo. Clinton

New York April 8th 1790

The following letter from His Excellency the Governor was agreed to.

Sir

With this you will receive a Meſsage from the Commiſsioners for holding Treaties with the Indians to such of the Chiefs Sachems and Warriors of the Onondagoes and Cayugas who were not present at the late Treaties held with those Nations and you will as speedily as poſsible repair to the Western part of the State and communicate this Meſsage to the Persons for whom it is intended. The mode of Communication must in some measure be submitted to your own Discretion; it is however the Wish of the Commiſsioners to meet and treat with a Committee, provided the appointment of a Committee can be effected in a Manner that they will be Authorized to Represent and transact Buſineſs in Behalf of all the Persons to whom the Meſsage is addreſsed. If you should find this not practicable, you will then bring with you as

Many of the Persons to whom the Message is intended, whom you will have it in your Power to Assemble, so as to have them at Fort Stanwix by the time appointed for holding the Treaty. From the Message you will discover it to be the Determination of the Commissioners to remain at Fort Stanwix a few days only, so that punctuality in the attendance of the Indians is Indispensable.

The Letter to Captn. Brant, which you will also receive with this, you will forward to him by a safe and speedy Conveyance. From your acquaintance with the Indians You will be able to determine who are the Individuals of the most Influence and Importance and consequently whose attendance should be obtained. — Geo Clinton

At a Meeting of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs held in the City of New York on the 14th day of April 1790.

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton

Mr. Paine	Mr. Varick
Mr. Hathorn	Mr. Benson
Mr. Jones	Mr. Lawrence

Mr. Benson from the Committee appointed to collect the Accounts of the Board and to effect a final settlement thereof with the State report ed that the Committee had liquidated the Account of John Taylor the Agent of the Board and that after making him every reasonable allowance & compensation there remained in the Hands of Mr. Taylor the Sum of one hundred and nine Pounds due to the State; Whereupon Resolved That Mr. Taylor retain the same in his Hands and place the same to the Credit of this Board.

Resolved also that it is necessary that the further Sum of five hundred Pounds be advanced to Mr. Taylor for the Purpose of procuring Supplies and Necessaries for holding the proposed Treaty with certain of the six Nations and that his Excellency the Governor draw a Warrant on the Treasurer of the State for that Sum.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners at the House of Nathan Strong in the City of New York on Thursday the 6th of May 1790.

Present.
His Excellency Governor Clinton.
Mr. Floyd } { Mr. Benson
Mr. Hathorn } { and
Mr. Jones } { Mr. Varick.

Steel Trap and two other Indians of the Cayuga Nation having arrived in New York in Mr. Gerret Ryckmans Sloop from Albany on Business with the State they attended the Board and Steel Trap informed them that a Number of White People had contrary to the Treaty and Agreement concluded with their Nation at Albany taken Possession of their reserved Lands and were making Improvements thereon which had occasioned great Uneasiness among them and he requested that Measures might be taken for removing the present Settlers and to prevent others from settling on those Lands in future: He expressed at the same Time their entire Satisfaction with the Agreement entered into with them and that they were resolved on their Part faithfully to adhere to it.

The Board in a Speech delivered by the Governor expressed their Disapprobation of the Conduct of the White People in settling on the Lands reserved by the Cayugaes contrary to the Agreement entered into with them and assured them that effectual Measures should be taken to remove the Intruders from the Lands and to prevent the like Abuses in future.

They also informed the Cayugaes that the Governor would immediately issue his Proclamation commanding the White People to depart from their Lands on Pain of having their Buildings prostrated and their Improvements laid waste and that Copies of that Proclamation should be given to them to be set up at Cayuga and distributed among the Intruders and that in Case the Proclamation was disobeyed Measures would be taken for carrying the Laws of the State on that Subject into effectual Execution.

Resolved that Blankets & other Necessaries to the Amount of about ten Pounds be presented to Steel Trap and the other two Indians accompanying him and that Mr. Varick be requested to procure them and pay the Expences of the present Meeting and charge it to Mr. Taylor the Agent to the Commissioners.

At a Meeting of the Commissioners
at the House of John Simmons in
the City of New York on Monday
the 10th Day of May 1790.

Present
His Excellency Governor Clinton.
Mr. Hathorn } { Mr. Lawrence and
Mr. Jones } { Mr. Benson.

Mr. Daniel Ryckman presented to the Board an Account of the Expences attending the bringing of Steel Trap and the two other Cayuga Indians to New York and for Necessaries furnished them on their Passage from Albany during their Stay at New York and for their Return to Albany; And Peter Ryckmans Bill for his Attendance as an Interpreter to these Indians: And also a Bill of Dr. John Gamage for Medicines and Attendance on Steel Trap while sick at New York amounting to two pounds fourteen Shillings: And also a Bill of Dr. Samuel Borrowe for Medicines and Attendance on Steel Trap amounting to two pounds nine shillings and six pence.

Mr. Varick also presented to the Board an Account of Elting & Varick amounting to nine pounds five shillings and seven pence halfpenny for the expenses incurred by him from them for Steel Trap and the other Cayuga Indians agreeable to the Order of the Board at the last Meeting. Thereupon Resolved That Mr. Varick be requested to pay to Messrs. Elting and Varick and to Drs. [illegible] and [illegible] the Amount of their respective Accounts, and that he also advance to the [illegible] for himself and Brother the Sum of fifty Dollars on Account & charge the same to the Agent.*

At a Meeting of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs at the House of his Excellency the Governor in the City of New York on Thursday the twentieth Day of May 1790.

Present
His Excellency Governor Clinton.
Mr. [illegible] } { Mr. L'Hommedieu
Mr. [illegible] } { and
Mr. Benson } { Mr. Varick.

Resolved That the Governor issue a Warrant to the Treasurer directing him to pay to Richard Varick the Sum of [illegible] thousand and three hundred and seventy Pounds being the Ballance of Monies appropriated by Law at the

the [illegible] for the Purpose of defraying the Expences of the Treaty proposed to be had with the Indians. The Commissioners having resolved to set out on their Journey to Fort Stanwix on the 23d of May. Mr. L'Hommedieu accordingly attended in this City on the 18th Instant and on Saturday the 22d of May The Governor, Mr. L'Hommedieu & Mr. Varick embarked on Board of Captain Samuel Lewis's Sloop for Albany. —

At a Meeting of the Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians within this State at the house of Seth Ranney at Fort Stanwix on Tuesday the first day of June 1790.

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton.
His Honor Lieut. Governor Van Cortlandt.
Ezra L'Hommedieu } { Peter Gansevoort Junr.
Abraham Ten Broeck } { & Richard Varick.

His Excellency the Governor, Mr. L'Hommedieu and Mr. Varick having embarked at New York on Saturday the 22nd Day of May & being joined by his Honor the Lieutenant Governor on Monday the 24th at Peekskill, arrived at Albany on Thursday the 27th in the Morning where they were joined by Abraham Ten Broeck and Peter Gansevoort Junr. Esquires and in the Afternoon commenced their Journey for this Place and arrived here on this Day in the Morning being the day appointed for opening the proposed Treaty.

No Indians appeared on the Ground; but Samuel Street of Niagara Esquire attended, and produced to the Board a Letter of Attorney under the hands and Seals of nine Indians, said to be Sachems, and Chief Warriors of the five Nations and to be executed at their Great Council Fire, at Buffaloe Creek, the seventh day of April last, authorizing the said Samuel Street to treat with the Governor and

Commissrs.

Commissioners of Indian Affairs and the People of the State of New York touching and concerning their Lands and to dispose of the same and the Rents thereof, only reserving the Execution of the Deeds for the same to be done by themselves.

The Board having taken the same into Consideration; Resolved that it would be improper to enter into any Negotiation with Mr. Street especially before the Return of Peter Otsiquette who was charged with their Message & Invitation to the Indians at Buffaloe Creek as it appears that the said Letter of Attorney was executed and that Mr. Street had left Buffaloe Creek before Peter Otsiquette arrived there. 377 84

Resolved further, that a Committee of three be appointed to confer with Mr. Street on the Subject of his Letter of Attorney, in Order to this Board being informed of his Views and Expectations and that Messrs. L'Hommedieu Tenbroeck and Varick be the Committee for that Purpose.

On Wednesday the 2nd. day of June Mr. Samuel Kirkland arrived and made the following Report, to wit, "Albany May 4th. 1790. "Received the Dispatches from his Excellency the "Governor and Commissioners by the hands of John "Taylor Esquire their Agent, for calling the Cayugas "and Onondagoes residing on Buffaloe Creek, to "a Treaty with the Commissioners of this State "to be held at Fort Stanwix the first of June next

~~Th~~ next. I set out from Albany at 4 o'Clock
"P. M. Before I had reached Oneida, I had
"direct Information from both the Onondagas
"and Oneidas, that the Indians were gene-
"rally on the Hunt, and particularly those
"whom I might safely trust in Company
"with a White Man to take Charge of the
Messages to the Westward. After much
"Difficulty from the Badness of the Way
"and Failure of two Horses, I arrived at
"Upper Oneida on Saturday, hired a Runner
to go near 30 Miles into the Woods for
"Peter Otsiquette the only one suitable to
"accompany a White Person with the above-
"mentioned Messages to the Buffaloe Indians."

Wednesday Morning a little
after Sun Rise, Roger Lovell and Peter Otsi-
quette set off from Onondago with the
Governor's Despatches, and with similar
Instructions to those I had received from
Mr. Taylor with the Addition of the Names
of the Chiefs and Head Warriors of both
Cayugas and Onondagas, who were not pre-
sent at several previous Treaties held with
their Nations by the Commissioners of this
State."

"Thursday, called the Chiefs
and Warriors of the Onondagas together at the
Request of some Individuals to acquaint them
with the Governors Message to their Brethren

on

in the Buffaloe, and to remove some Difficulties which labored in their Minds by the Voice of the Birds."

"Returned to Oneida where I lay sick several days. On the 18th I was informed that Webster the Onondaga Interpreter had returned from Cayuga and paſsed Oneida on his Way to Oriske. I accordingly rode to the Vicinity of Oriske to engage him as a second Meſsenger to go after Sevell and Otsiquette, agreeably to ancient Usage, to expedite the Indians on their Way to the Treaty. He appointed to meet me at Old Oneida by the 20 or 21st Instant for the Purpose."

On Tuesday the 2nd of June in the Evening a Committee of the Oneida Nation consisting of Tywahistonishe alias Jacob Blacksmith, Gagsaweda alias Lodwick, Tehoniwaghwangalaghkon alias Colo. Hanyery, Kanaghsatyerha alias Joseph; Aheandyakhon alias Lawrence; Thaghtaghquesere alias William and Atsiaktatye alias Jacob Reed, authorised for the Purpose by that Nation, attended to receive their Annual Payment, and on the 3rd in the Morning Payment was accordingly made to them of 600 Dollars by John Tayler Esquire the Person appointed by his Excellency the Governor and a Receipt for the same dated on the 4th of June was in due Form executed in the Presence of El.

Cummings

Commissioners and witnessed by James Livingston, Samuel Street, William Colbreath, and Samuel Kirkland.

On the same day Kahiktoto one of the Onondaga Sachems residing on their Reservation, accompanied by Ephraim Webster, Abraham Bont, Capt. Peter and one or two others attended as a Committee authorized for the Purpose by that Nation to receive their Annual Payment. — It being late in the Afternoon they were furnished with Provisions and retired to refresh themselves.

In the mean time, Peter Otsiquette the Messenger of the Commissioners arrived from Buffaloe Creek accompanied by an Onondaga Indian from thence and made the following Report. viz:

"That on the 16 Ulto. he and Mr. Sevett arrived at Buffaloe Creek and the next day delivered the Governor's Dispatches in public Council of the Onondagoes, Cayugas and Senecas."

"The old Cayuga Chief called the Fish Carrier and the Onondaga Chief called Clear Sky rejected the Governors Message inviting them to a Treaty at Fort Stanwix. They moved in Public Council to invite the Governor and Commissioners from New York to Buffaloe Creek for the Business of the proposed Treaty. This Proposition was utterly rejected by Peter Otsiquette and seconded by many of their Warriors as ungenerous and impracticable. After counselling for several days among themselves, the Onondagoes informed Peter Otsiquette, that they had resolved to repair to the Governor's Council Fire at Fort Stanwix. The Cayugas might do as they pleased. They also observed to Peter Otsiquette, that the Opposition to the Governors Message was made only by three particular Friends of Colo. Butler.

The next day the Determination of the Onondagoes was published, in full Council, upon which the Fish Carrier replied that they were very unwise. Their Resolution would tend to divide the Nation and that it was not safe to go down among a People who would take every Advantage of them when once in their Power: That they should remember what their Nation had suffered heretofore at Onondaga. —

Peter Otsiquette replied, that he would stake his life against any ill Treatment they might receive from the People of New York by attending to the proposed Treaty. That he was fully satisfied of the peaceable Disposition of the State and the Americans, and particularly the Governor of New York towards the Indians:

The Onondagoes then appointed a young Warrior to accompany Peter Otsequette *down to Fort Stanwix, with Orders to acquaint the Governor that they would set out within three days. When they were just setting out, the Fish Carrier sent them Word that he had some Thoughts of following the Onondagoes, but he should take several days to make up his Mind upon the Subject.

Whereupon Resolved that it will be inexpedient to make the Annual Payment to the Onondagoes, previous to the Arrival of that Part of their Nation which is expected from Buffaloe Creek, and that the Reason of the Delay be explained to Kahiktoto and others, the Committee of that Nation.

On Friday the 4 Day of June Kahiktoto and other Onondaga Indians attended at the Commiſsioners Quarters, when the Governor, after the ordinary Salutation, informed them that in Consequence of Reports of Uneasineſs among the Indians to the Westward which had been communicated to him last Summer, the Commiſsioners had thought proper to kindle a Council Fire at this Place at this time and to invite those of their Nation, who resided at Buffaloe Creek to attend it, in Order to hear what they had to say and to remove all just Causes of Complaint and introduce Peace and Harmony among all our Indian Brethren: That it would therefore, if agreeable to them, be expedient to delay making the annual Payment to them, until the Arrival of those Indians, who might be expected every day."

To this they cheerfully consented, but informed the Board, that agreeable to ancient Custom, which could not be departed from, they would be under the Necessity of returning to their Nation to make their Report: That this would tend to expedite and facilitate the Business, as they would meet their Brethren from the Westward and hurry them on; and that they would at the same Time have an Opportunity of reconciling the Minds of their Brethren to the Agreement entered into by them with the Commissioners, and to settle all Matters with them to the perfect Satisfaction of both Parties, and that they did not doubt but they would be able to effect an amicable Settlement.

It was at the same time deemed adviseable that a Messenger should be sent on to the Westward to announce the Arrival of the Governor and Commissioners at the Council Fire at Fort Stanwix, and to hasten the Journey of the Indians from Buffaloe Creek; and for this Purpose Ephraim Webster of the Onondagoes was immediately dispatched for the Purpose and Kahiktote and his Companions were furnished with Provisions and set off to Onondago.*

On Saturday the 5th day of June the Commissioners having been informed that Animosities and Parties prevailed among the Oneidas about their private Concerns and that it was probable that this Dissension would occasion a Visit, unseasonable to the Commissioners and expensive to the State, the Governor accompanied by Messrs. L'Hommedieu Gansevoort and Varick, with Mr Kirkland their Interpreter, went to Canonowahele (a) near the Oneida Castle, and after receiving the usual Congratulations on the Arrival of himself and the Commissioners with him, the Governor explained to Domine Peter, Lodwick, Anthony, the Great Bear and other Chiefs and Warriors who attended, the Reasons which induced the Commissioners to kindle a Council Fire at Fort Stanwix at this Time; and informed them that when the

Indians from the Westward arrived he would expect that some of their principal Chiefs & Warriors would attend at Fort Stanwix, to bear Witneſs to what might paſs between them and the Commiſsioners and be convinced of the friendly Disposition of the State towards all their Indian Brethren, and of their Desire to adopt every reasonable and just Measure to heal the Animosities which subsisted between them.

He also explained to them the Answer of the Commiſsioners to their Meſsage of last Winter and mentioned the Causes which had excited Uneasineſs and Animosity among them, and cautioned them to beware of those Causes in future and exhorted them to Peace and Friendship as eſsential to their Prosperity and Happineſs.

On the next Morning the Governor and Commiſsioners returned to their Quarters at Fort Stanwix.

On Monday the 7th day of June in the Evening the Meſsengers from the Onondagoes and one Meſsenger from the Cayuga Nation residing at Buffaloe Creek, And also a Meſsenger from Capt. Joseph Brant and the Mohawk Chiefs residing at Grand River on the North Side of Lake Erie, arrived and the Onondaga Messenger delivered the following Message, to wit:

Brother the Governor of New York, You will now attend and open your Ears!

We two are sent from the six Nations, particularly from the Onondagoes; We left them on their Way from Buffaloe Creek, at a small Place called Canawaughta and they will be on, as soon as the Weather and their Strength (some being weak) will admit.

The Chief of the Cayugas said they would leave Buffaloe Creek the next day, and request You to exercise a long Mind, if they do not come at a particular day; that they would be on as soon as the Weather and their Strength (some being old and feeble) would admit. Some of the Mohawks also propose to come in as We understand.

We have a Message to Mr. Street, which We are charged to deliver to him in your Presence.

The Messenger from the Cayugas at Buffaloe Creek then communicated the following Message—

Brother the Governor of New York and the other Commissioners Attend!

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"I am sent expreſs by the Cayuga Natio My Meſsage consists of few Words, but they are important as relating to your Council. viz. I am ordered to acquaint You, that our Chiefs are on their Way: they request You earnestly to exercise Patience for their Arrival: Many are feeble among them: The time has been so short since the Arrival of your Meſsage, that they have exerted themselves in preparing to come, and they again urge You to exercise a long Mind until they arrive, and not cover up the Council Fire until they see You.

Brother Governor. — Our aged Chief the *Fish Carrier* has long been confined by Sickneſs and is very much enfeebled that he has not been able to rise to attend a Council Fire at a near Distance; but now on hearing your Voice he will rise up and attend at your Council Fire. They are now, I suppose, at Kanadasegea. He particularly said he would have every thing ready to leave the Village in 3 days after I left it. It is now seven Sleeps since I left the old Chief at the Village. 10 Chiefs of our Nation had agreed to come. I myself make the tenth Chief.

The Meſsenger from Capt. Brant and the Mohawk Chiefs then delivered his Meſsage.

"Brother Governor of New York and Comrs

Commissioners attend!

I am a Mohawk residing at Grand River. I am now arrived at the Council Fire, the kindling of which is of importance to the five Nations. I thank the Great Spirit for having preserved me on the Way; I came in Safety and now meet You in Peace; I acknowledge the Favour of the Great Spirit for our mutual Protection and that I was so happy as to arrive the same Evening with the other Messengers of the five Nations. My Message altho' important is comprized in few words. I am directed to inform the Governor and his Chiefs that the Chiefs of the Mohawk Nation are on their Way to attend the Council Fire and to entreat that it may not be covered up until they arrive, as it is their Desire to be present at the intended Negotiations. For this Purpose I was sent on by Land and ordered to make the utmost Dispatch and to return by Water and meet them with an Answer from the Governor, whether the Council Fire would remain kindled until they arrive.

The Letter of Invitation from the Governor to the Mohawk Nation was a long time on the Way to them. It was detained

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a considerable time at the other Villages before it was forwarded to their Place of Settlement on the Grand River, being remote, which prevented them preparing to come on earlier.

Captⁿ. Brant with the Chiefs ordered me to come forward with the utmost Despatch I could make, lest the Council Fire should be covered up before I could arrive to inform the Governor and Commissioners that they were on their Way, and to deliver to the Governor the Letter from Captⁿ. Brant which I have this Evening presented.

It is now 11 Sleeps since I left the Settlement on Grand River, & seven, according to Agreement, that Captⁿ. Brant and the Chiefs were to leave it. Whereabouts I shall meet them I know not. Captain Brant and the Chiefs particularly requested me to present their Compliments to the Governor and his Chiefs and to express their great Desire to see them.

To which the Governor replied:

Brothers! We are happy to see You here. We join with You in Thanks to the Great Spirit for having preserved You in your Journey and for your safe Arrival at this place. We will now order You Refreshment and in the Morning We will send for Mr. Street

and

~~328~~ and when You shall have delivered to him the Message which You are charged to deliver to him, in our Presence, We will give You our Answer to your respective Nations.

The Letter from Capt.^n Brant to his Excellency the Governor is in the Words following viz^t.

Mohawk Village Grand River
26^th May 1794.

Sir

I had the honor of receiving your Excellency's letter dated 8^th April. We 355 44 are very sorry it comes to our hands so late, as the time is so far expired. It is not in our Power to meet with You and the Commissioners at Fort Stanwix. Our hearty Wish is to have the Affairs about the Land accommodated with You, for which Reason I now send express to your Excellency, to let You know the Reasons of our not attending at the Time and Place appointed to meet with You. As We are very anxious to see You about different public Affairs, please to send Word by the Express where We shall meet with You and the Day; as We set off soon after the Express and go on slowly till further Notice from You. As for the

Cayugas and Onondagoes We can't tell how they received the Invitation as they are some Distance from Us, at Buffaloe Creek. You may be assured that Captain David myself and proper Persons will attend.

Sir

I remain your most obed.t
Hum.le Serv.t
Jos. Brant.

Geo Clinton Esq.r
Governor of the State
of New York &c &c

On Tuesday Morning the 8th of June the Messengers who came from Buffaloe Creek attended the Board and in their Presence the Onondaga Messenger communicated the following Message to Mr. S. Street, towit,

That it was the Request of the Chiefs residing at Buffaloe Creek, that he should not negotiate any Business for them with the Governor of New York and the Commissioners, untill they arrived, as they understood that he had come away from that Country upon Business for them before they had received the Message from the Governor inviting them to his Council Fire at Fort Stanwix.

That if Mr. Street had passed this Place to wait on the Governor, he should return and remain at the Council Fire till they arrived. That if the Council Fire was covered up before he arrived he should write the Governor requesting him to rekindle the same, as they were very anxious to see him.

The Governor then desired the Onondaga and Cayuga Messengers to inform their respective Nations that he would keep the Council Fire burning as long as he possibly could consistent with other public Business; That his Patience was almost exhausted and requested therefore that they would expedite their Journey to this Place.

The Governor then delivered to the Mohawk Messenger an Answer to Captain Brant's Letter in the Words following:

Fort Stanwix June 7th 1790
7 OClock P.M.

Sir,

I have this Moment received your Letter of the 26th Ult:

I am sorry that mine of the 8th April met with so much delay on its Passage. I should have written to You at an earlier Day but I concluded that the Intimation I gave You in my Letter of the 19th September last, that it was probable that I should be here on the first day of this Month, would have rendered an earlier Notice (had not my letter been so long delayed on the Road) unneceſsary.

I have been at this Place with the Commiſsioners for Indian Affairs since the first Instant (the day appointed for meeting) and altho' my other publick Buſineſs calls very preſsingly for my Attention at New York, I shall neverthleſs continue at this Place some Days longer, in Hopes of having the Pleasure of an Interview with You and such of the Chiefs of your Nation as are with You. I must therefore request that You will expedite your Journey as much as poſsible.

I am with great Respect
Captn. Jos. Brant. Sir Your most obedt. Servt.
Geo. Clinton

On the same Day, late in the Afternoon, Ephraim Webster, who was dispatched as a Meſsenger on the 4th. Instant, to meet the Indians who were coming from Buffaloe Creek, returned and informed the Board that he proceeded as far as Cayuga where he met with about 50 Onondagoes on their Way to attend the Treaty; That the old Men had determined to take Paſsage by Water from the Cayuga Lake and the young Men set out by Land and

# when he left them they were on their Way between Cayuga and Onondaga. Webster also brought a String of Wampum from the Cayugas who reside upon the Headwaters, acquainting the Board that their Brothers from the Buffaloe were on their Way, and as soon as they arrived at Cayuga, they would accompany them down and attend the Treaty. Both the Onondagoes and Cayugas intreated the Commissioners to exercise a long Mind and keep the Council Fire burning, as they had come a great Distance and could make but slow Progress in travelling, being very faint & hungry and requested that a little Provisions might be sent on to those who come by Water, to boil one Kettle at the Oneida Lake, which would enable them to come on.

On Thursday the 10th of June a Messenger arrived from Oneida with a Letter from the Beech Tree, informing the Governor that the Onondagoes from the Westward were arrived on this Side of Onondaga and that they were expected at Oneida on that Night and requesting that some Provision might be sent there to refresh them, and a Keg to grease their Joints and a Staff to enable them to compleat their Journey. The Board were of Opinion that it would delay the Arrival of the Onondagoes, should Provisions be sent on for them to the Oneida Castle, and therefore the Governor wrote an Answer to Beech Tree aſsigning this as the Reason for not complying with his Request and sent him a small Staff for his own Use.

On Friday the 11th. of June two Meſsengers arrived from the Onondagoes who are on their Way from Buffaloe Creek and who were this Morning at the Deep Springs, with the following Meſsage to the Board viz.t

Brother Governor of New York!

We are sent by our Chiefs to acquaint You that they are on their Way and Tomorrow hope to meet You at your Council Fire. The Warriors, having come a long Journey, can not dreſs themselves in a suitable Manner to appear before the Great Sachem, without some Paint which compleats their Dreſs in the Indian Style. They request You therefore to send a little of that Article by Us, and they will dreſs themselves in the best Manner they can, in Order to honor the Governor & Chiefs of New York upon their Appearance before them.

The Sachems being old and much Legweary request a Staff of the Bigneſs of half a Charge to enable them to perform the remaining Part of the Journey and keep Pace with the Warriors.

On Sunday the 13th of June in the Afternoon, the Onondagoes arrived from Oneida, and after encamping waited on the Commissioners, and the Governor in a short Speech, in the usual Form congratulated them on their safe Arrival to this Place. Whereupon Skaunghyowane or Clear Sky one of the principal Sachems from Buffaloe Creek, made their salutatory Address to the Commissioners. After the usual Ceremony of kindling a Council Fire and smoaking a Pipe, the same Chief again rose and in another Speech, in which he acknowledged the Receipt of the Governors Invitation, he expressed their high Satisfaction at the Prospect it gave them of having a personal Interview with the Governor and Commissioners, and he recapitulated the Purport of the Letter of Invitation, which with the Belt he returned in due Form.

They then delivered in, Returns of the Number of each Tribe, amounting in the whole to 102, and requested that the ancient Custom might be revived of a little Refreshment in the Evening to make them sleep well and in the Morning to wash their Eyes.

Several other Speeches were then made by the Sachems and Chief Warriors, highly complimentary and expreſsive of their great Joy and Satisfaction at this Interview with their Governor and his Chiefs.

After the usual Ceremonies were paſsed the Governor informed them that the Commiſsioners would be ready to meet them and proceed upon Busineſs tomorrow Morning at 10 OClock and then retired.

On Monday the 14th June the Onondaga Nation attended the Board at the Council Fire and the Governor opened the Busineſs of the Meeting.

After the usual Introduction on the Occasion, accompanied with a String of four Rows of White Wampum, he observed that being informed that Heats and Animosities prevailed among them he was induced to kindle a Council Fire at this Place at this Time, agreeable to ancient Usage, in Order to interpose his friendly Services towards healing those Divisions and introducing Harmony among them. He then observed that after the Close of the War, which had for a Time unhappily interrupted our friendly Intercourse he had taken the earliest Opportunity of kindling a Council Fire at this same Place, to establish Peace, revive our ancient Friendship and rub off the Rust which the Covenant Chain had contracted in the Course of the War: That many of the Chiefs and Warriors of the different Nations attended at that Meeting, and the greatest Cordiality prevailed, so that he had Reason to believe that that Friendship which subsisted between our respective Forefathers, was again revived and confirmed; and lest any thing might interrupt it, he had at that Time explained to them the Manner in which Business was hereafter to be transacted between Us. (Here he mentioned particularly the Explanation which took Place at that Treaty & appealed to those who were present at that Time and now here, for the Truth of what he now repeated.)

He then observed that more than three Years had elapsed and nothing occurred during that Time to disturb our mutual Friendship and Tranquility; but that at the End of that Period he was, to his great Surprise, informed, that some of the disobedient Children of the State had been among our Brethren of the five Nations to the Westward, and had, contrary to our

Laws and the ancient Usages that subsisted between Us, purchased from them all their Lands; and that other White People who were connected with them, were in Consequence of this Transaction, rushing into their Country and possessing themselves of their Lands, in Defiance of the Authority of the State. That our Arm was long enough to reach them and had Strength sufficient to reclaim and punish them; but We desisted from these harsh Measures, lest the due Exercise of our Power might have interrupted the Friendship which We wished to maintain with our Brethren of the five Nations; and the more especially as some of them appeared to countenance the Conduct of our disobedient Children. Possessed therefore of this friendly and peaceable Disposition, he had proposed kindling a Council Fire at this Place two Years ago, and accordingly invited all his Brethren of the five Nations to attend it, That these Matters might be enquired into, and Measures taken to prevent the Evils which then threatened; but hearing that a Council Fire was proposed to be kindled under the Authority of Congress at Muskingum, nearly at the same time, and that our Brethren of the five Nations were invited to attend it, He postponed kindling his Council Fire until the latter End of the Month of August, and renewed his Invitation to the five Nations to meet him at this Place at

Time. That he attended with several Chiefs of the State on the day last appointed & found many of his Brethren of the Onondagoes at this Place whom he now again saw here present, and he exercised much Patience for the Arrival of others of his Brethren of the same Nation from the Westward; but none of them came. After many days waiting, and being informed that a National Representation was present, he proceeded upon Buſineſs. – That they discoursed freely upon every thing that had paſsed and on the then unhappy Situation into which our Affairs had been brought, by Misconduct and a Departure from the ancient Mode of doing Buſineſs, and after much Deliberation, We entered into an Agreement with each other which We considered as the best calculated to promote our mutual Good. That it was unneceſsary to repeat all that had paſsed between Us or the particular Covenants We then entered into: That these Things they must all be acquainted with & he appealed to those of the Nation who were then present, whether all the Buſineſs which was then transacted was not done in Sobriety and with Fairneſs and Candour: That in Consequence of the Agreement which then took Place, We paid our Brethren a large Sum of Money and Goods, and stipulated to pay them a considerable Sum on the first day of this Month in every Year: That this Covenant on our Part had been faithfully complied with; That last Year our Agent brought the Money to this Place on the day and it was honestly paid: That We had done more: when they were hungry and wanted Bread, We purchased Corn and sent to this Place at our own Expence to relieve their Distresses: That this Year We were also ready to pay the Money on the day stipulated; but that as Uneasiness subsisted among them, and they had proposed to kindle a Council Fire on the same day, We thought it adviseable to delay the Payment, till We could see all our Brethren together, and by our good Offices and Advice, endeavour to reconcile their Differences. He then desir'd them not to misunderstand him; That he did not mean by what he had said that any Alteration could take Place in the Covenants We had already entered into. That these are for our mutual Happiness and they must stand as firm as the Mountains and endure as long as the Water runs. - That our Business there was only to reconcile the Differences and Animosities which had taken Place among them, and We were now ready to afford them our best Services for this salutary Purpose: That We had already exercised a long Mind as the public Business of the State particularly called for his Return to New York, and it would be necessary that they should meet together, deliberate upon their Affairs, and bring Matters to a Conclusion with all possible Dispatch. — That they should avoid listening to the Birds, as they would again attempt to delude and deceive them: He exhorted them to deliberate well, to think for themselves and act as Candour and Justice should dictate, and then there was little to fear but they would do what is right.

To which Skalunghyowane or Clear Sky replied as follows,

Brother Governor of New York!

Open your Ears and hear what I have to say; The Great Spirit has appointed this day for our Meeting in Peace and smoking our Pipes together at your Council Fire.

Our Brother the Governor with his Chiefs have welcomed Us to this Council Fire agreeable to the Custom of our Ancestors. You have opened our Ears that We may listen to what You shall say, at this Meeting designed to revive the Friendship which subsisted between our Ancestors, and brighten the Covenant Chain.

We the Sachems & Warriors here present in Town now welcome You at the Council Fire which You have kindled; and that nothing on our Part may obstruct the Business of this friendly Meeting, We wipe from your Eyes and those of your Chiefs, the Tears, if any may have fallen for the Loss of your Wives your Children or your Friends. We also remove every Obstruction from your Breasts, that your Minds may operate freely in adjusting the Affairs which concern our mutual Peace & Happiness.

By this String also We open your Ears that You may hear our Voices, as distinctly as You have prepared Us to hear yours. [A String of White Wampum.)

Brother!

In the Course of your Speech, You cautioned Us to think for ourselves and to deliberate well, and on the Opening of the Business You touched upon many Matters of great Importance to our Welfare – We will endeavour to observe your Advice, but as the Day is now far spent and the Sun sunk low, We will spend the Evening in Deliberation & Rest, and if We can be prepared We will give You an Answer Tomorrow.

Brother Governor and your Chiefs!

We have nothing more to say at present.

On the same Day the Board deemed it expedient to send forward a Meſsenger to hasten the Arrival of the Cayugas, and Ephraim Webster was accordingly dispatched with the following Instructions, to wit,

Fort Stanwix 14th June 1790

Sir!

Ever since the 1st of this Month, the time fixed for kindling a Council Fire at this Place, I with the other Commiſsioners have been attending in daily Expectation of meeting our Brethren the Cayugas and Onondagoes. Yesterday the Onondagoes arrived and You told me the Cayugas are on their Way but at a very considerable Distance from this Place; I have therefore to request that You will again immediately set out and meet them and use every Means in your Power to expedite their Arrival. Inform them that our Patience is almost exhausted in waiting for them, and that the public Busineſs of the State calls for my speedy Return to the City of New York: That it will therefore require their utmost Expedition to see me & the Commiſsioners here, on the Busineſs for which this Council Fire was kindled, which was more on their Account than our own: That We shall continue here as long as other public Business will possibly admit. so that if there should be a Failure in their seeing Us, it will not be chargeable to Us but to their Delay. If You discover any Person or Persons using Means to retard their Journey, You will authenticate the Fact and report the same to me, in Order that the Offenders may be brought to condign Punishment.

I am, in Behalf of the Commissioners,
your most obedt. Sert.
Geo Clinton.

Mr. Ephraim Webster
of the Onondagoes.

A Letter was also written by the Governor to Colonel Seth Reed (to be delivered to him, in Case the Cayugas from Buffaloe Creek should not have arrived on this Side of Kanadasegea), to furnish them with the necessary Provisions for their Journey.

A Letter was also dispatched by Mr. Webster to the Sachems and Chief Warriors of the Oneida Nation, in the Words following, towit,

Fort Stanwix June 14th. 1790.

Brothers!

Our Brothers the Onondagoes arrived here yesterday Afternoon. I mentioned, when I was at your Castle, that when they come in and I was ready to talk to them, I would inform You of it, that a Committee of your

#4 Chiefs and Warriors might attend and be Witnesses to what passed between Us. This I now do and shall be glad to see You Tomorrow. It will be most convenient that the Committee should not be too large, as where a great many People are collected together, Business can not be too well transacted. I am Brothers

Your Friend

Geo Clinton

The Board being informed that the Sutlers on the Ground furnished the Indians with Liquor, which occasioned great Disorder and unfitted them for Business, came to the following Resolution, to wit;

Resolved, that no Sutler or other Person be permitted to sell or give any kind of Liquor to any Indian attending at this Place, until the Business of the present Treaty shall be compleated, on Pain of being immediately removed from the Ground and otherwise dealt with agreeable to Law.

On Tuesday the 15th day of June nothing was done. The Onondaga Chiefs apologized to the Commissioners for not giving their Answer on this day agreeable to Promise, as their young Men were engaged in preparing for a Dance with others of the five nation

Nations on the Ground, which had interrupte their Deliberations, but promised to attend To-morrow Morning early.

On Wednesday Morning the 16th of June, Webster returned with two Cayugas Warriors as Messengers from that Nation, who informed the Board That they had four Sleeps ago arrived at Kanadasegea; That the Fish Carrier and some others of the more elderly People and others who were too much fatigued to travel by Land, intended coming from thence by Water; That Colonel Reed was about preparing a Boat for them and, at their earnest Request, had given them a small Supply of Provisions for their Journey which the Fish Carrier promised the Governor would compensate him for. — That they expected to be here (if nothing happened to obstruct their Passage) either this Evening or Tomorrow, and beg'd the Governor to wait with Patience for their Arrival; That their Young Warriors were coming on by Land; That they had left them three Sleeps ago on this Side of Cayuga. They requested that Provisions might be ready for them, as they would be much fatigued and very hungry.

On the same Day the Onondagoes

attended to return their Answer to the Governor's Speech, and being seated and informed that the Commiſsioners were ready to hear their Answer, Peter alias Beech Tree or Quarter Master, an Oneida Chief, addreſsed the Aſsembly as follows;

Brothers of the six Nations attend!

I with others of our Chiefs and principal Warriors, were called by your Governor to be present here and be Witneſses to what shall paſs between You and him. We wish You Happineſs in your Meeting and that your Conduct may bear the Complexion of this fair day.

Our Governor only requested a few of our principal Chiefs and Warriors to attend, but this would be contrary to our ancient Usage. When the sage Chiefs go out upon Buſineſs, some of the young Warriors always attend them, to take Care of them, as well as to learn the Manner in which public Buſineſs is to be transacted. Accordingly a Number of our young Warriors attended Us, agreeable to ancient Custom. We shall only open our Ears and hear what paſses between You.

Peter having finished his Speech, sat down and Clear Sky rose & spoke as follows;

Brothers & Cousins of the five Nations &c.
Brother Governor of New York and your Chiefs,
open your Ears and attend to what I have
to say!

We are now aſsembled at this Place, on the day appointed by the Great Spirit for our Meeting. We congratulate You on this Occasion and on the Protection afforded Us by the Great Spirit. Two days have paſsed since We met at this Council Fire, when our Brother the Governor opened to Us the Reasons for kindling it here at this Time.

Brother Governor! You then recapitulated all the Events which had taken Place between You and Us, since the Close of the late War; and particularly our Transactions respecting the Disposal of our Lands without the Consent of the State, and contrary to ancient Customs, and of the Evils which had resulted therefrom. You mentioned, that You had paid particular Attention to the Welfare and Happineſs of our Nation, of our Wives and of our Children.

Brother Governor! We have deliberated upon your Speech made to Us two days ago & thank You for your Attention to the Good of the Nation. We now see clearly that there was nothing unfriendly or wrong in any of your Negociations with Us, and We again thank You for your friendly Addreſs and Counsel to Us.

Brothers & Cousins of the five Nations attend while I addreſs the Governor, Chiefs and People of New York and the Americans in general. Let all present hear and bear Witneſs.

Brother! You have exhorted Us to Peace and cautioned Us not to regard the Voice of the Birds.

Brother! We in our Turn likewise exhort You to Peace and not to regard the Voice of the Birds who will break our Peace. My Words are few but they are strong.

A White Belt with eleven Rows of White Wampum & four Oblique Rows of Black Wampums across it.

Brothers & Cousins of the five Nations again attend while I addreſs the Governor and his Chiefs of New York.

Brother Governor! We have now cast away all Obstructions in the Path which impeded our Peace with You. We have heard your Voice with Pleasure. We wipe away the Blood which has been spilt. We have pulled up a great Tree from the Roots and We have buried the Voices of the Birds and all Discords and Jealousies in the Hole, that they may sink down to the Bottom of the Great River and be washed away forever with the Floods, and We now take fast hold of the Chain of Peace, to be held between You and Us and our Posterity forever.

Brother Governor! We have now spoken from the Bottom of our hearts, as You have spoken from the Bottom of your Heart. This We have done under the Eye of the Great Spirit above.

[A long White Belt with 16 Rows.]

Brother Governor of New York! Open your Ears! Before We left our Council Fire at home, our Female Governesses heard your Voice & Message, and were glad and rejoiced, so did our little ones. Our Mothers advised Us to see You and congratulate You on their Behalf and to return to them with Messages of Peace:

One String of five Rows of chequered Wampum representing the female Governesses, & one String of four Rows of White Wampum representing the Children, were then presented.

Clear Sky then sat down, & Kahiktoto a principal Chief from Onondaga rose and requested the Attention of his Brethren the Oneidas, who were present as Witnesses to what had been said, shewing that their Brethren residing at Buffalo Creek had now fully spoken their Minds to the Governor and his Chiefs. Wherefore he re-

quested

requested that those who were attending as Witnesses might seal it up in their Memory.

The Governor then replied that it gave him and the other Commissioners the highest Satisfaction to observe, that Harmony and Reconciliation was so perfectly restored between our Brethren the Onondagoes: That they were so perfectly satisfied with the different Transactions which had taken Place since the Close of the War with Respect to their Nation; and above all that Peace and Friendship were so perfectly restored and established between them & Us. He then observed, that if it was consistent with their ancient Custom, it would tend to expedite the Completion of the Business of the Council Fire, if a Committee consisting of their principal Chiefs and Warriors were appointed to confer freely with the Commissioners on the Business to bring it to a Close.

This Proposition was acceded to with great Readiness as perfectly agreeable to ancient Usage and a Committee of 20 of the principal Chiefs and Warriors was accordingly appointed, who immediately retired with the Governor and Commissioners and adjusted the Business to the entire Satisfaction of the Onondagoes.

In the Course of this Transaction

the Committee on the Part of the Indians mentioned, that they expected that those who were intrusted with the Management of their public Affairs would receive some Gratuity for their extraordinary Trouble and Services. This was agreed to by the Commissioners.

Kahiktote also introduced to the Commissioners a young Sachem, who filled the Place of his deceased Father. He observed that the Father had been a Man of the first Character and Consequence in their Nation. That long ago, in a Council Fire at Albany, Quedel Cola or Colonel Peter Schuyler had been very kind to him and made him a considerable Present. That he had asked them for a small Piece of Land at the Falls (Oswego Falls) to carry his Boats over, and that they had promised it to him. That they understood Major Peter Schuyler now upon the Ground was his Descendant; They wished that the Commissioners would give him a Piece of Land there.

To which the Governor replied, that as that Land was ceded to the People of the State, at the late Treaty, it was not in the Power of the Commissioners to comply with their Request. That this was a Matter which rested entirely with the Legislature and that these Circumstances and their Request would accordingly be reported to them.

The

XX. The Committee then retired and soon after Ojageghte alias the Fish Carrier a Sachem and a Number of others of the Cayugas residing at Buffaloe Creek arrived and waited on the Commissioners. The Fish Carrier mentioned that his Business was barely to announce his Arrival and to inform the Governor that a Number of the Warriors who travelled by Land had not yet come in: That when they arrived and were refreshed they would wait upon the Governor and Commissioners in Form and they then retired.

In the Afternoon the Onondaga Nation assembled at the Council Fire. The Governor mentioned to them, that he presumed, from their now assembling that their Committee had reported the Result of their Conference with the Commissioners to the Nation and that they had approved and confirmed it: That we were now ready to perfect the Business on our Parts; and that nothing remained to be done but the Payment of the Money & the Execution of the Writings. To which they unanimously expressed their Assent.

The Governor then informed them, that he had a few more Words to say to

them

then in Answer to the Messages and Strings presented to the Board, in Behalf of the female Governesses and little ones residing at Buffaloe Creek. He observed that it gave himself and the other Commissioners peculiar Pleasure to be informed of the friendly Disposition of our Sisters and their Children; and that as a Testimony of the Regard and Friendship of the People of this State towards them, he now presented them with Clothing and other Articles suitable for them, which, amounting in Value to £64.4.0, was then laid before them.

The Money was then produced & counted and the Instrument of Ratification comprising a Receipt for the Annual Payment for this Year, was executed in the Presence of the Oneida Nation and of Captain Joseph Brant and others of the Mohawk and Cayuga Nations.

Captain Brant having previously in full Council, in Presence of the Commissioners, called upon the Onondagoes to know whether the present Transaction was with their full Approbation and Consent and being answered in the Affirmative, he inserted the Indian Names in the Instrument of Ratification and became a Witness thereto. The said Instrument is in the Words following viz!

"We the Sachems, Chiefs & Warriors
"of the Tribe or Nation of Indians called the
"Onondagoes, being assembled in full Council
"at a Council Fire kindled at Fort Stanwix
"this day, by his Excellency George Clinton
"Governor of the State of New York, The Honorable
"Pierre Van Cortlandt Lieutenant Governor
"of the said State, and Ezra L'Homdieu,
"Abraham Ten Broeck, Peter Gansevoort
"Junior and Richard Varick Commissioners
"for holding Treaties with the Indians
"within the said State; Do hereby acknowledge
"to have received from the People of the said
"State, the Sum of five hundred Dollars in
"Silver, being the Annual Payment stipulated
"to be made to Us the said Onondagoes on
"the first day of June Instant, in and by
"certain Articles of Agreement or Deeds of
"Cession hereunto annexed and executed by
"and between the People of the State of New
"York by their Commissioners authorised for
"that Purpose and Us the said Onondagoes,
"and bearing date the twelfth day of September
"in the Year one thousand seven hundred
"and eighty eight: And also the further Sum
"of five hundred Dollars, as a Benevolence: And
"We the said Onondagoes do by these Presents
"fully freely and absolutely ratify and confirm
"the said Agreement and Deed of Cession and

all

368 "all and singular the Articles, Covenants & Things
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therein expressed and contained on the Part of the
said Onondagoes done or to be done, executed or
"performed. In Testimony whereof we the said
"Sachems Chiefs and Warriors of the said Onon
"dagoes for and in Behalf of our Tribe or Nation,
"have hereunto set our hands and affixed our
"Seals this sixteenth Day of June in the
"Year one thousand seven hundred and ninety."

Tehonwaghskwenton his X Mark (L.S.)
Kenonghsionni his X Mark (L.S.)
Tekanaghkwaghshen his X Mark (L.S.)
Aonghwenjageghte his X Mark (L.S.)
Skanawadigh his X Mark (L.S.)
Atthayeranen his X Mark (L.S.)
Skayaness. his X Mark (L.S.)
Ayanco his X Mark (L.S.)
Oyadageghte his X Mark (L.S.)
Aankeinte his X Mark (L.S.)
Othwentageghte his X Mark (L.S.)
Aronghyowainengh his X Mark (L.S.)
Kaghiektoton his X Mark (L.S.)
Onaghsadegeah
al: Flaming Arrow } his X Mark (L.S.)

Skayen,

341 Skayondakhen his + mark (L.S.) 369

Kaseegstoghare his X mark (L.S.)

Tekaneghente his + mark (L.S.)

Aronghyeaghtha his + mark (L.S.)

Joghahison his X mark (L.S.)

Sagoyenaghs his + mark (L.S.)

Karongyatsigowa his + mark (L.S.)

Onoonakaronton his + mark (L.S.)

Tehoghweahkaronti his 6 mark (L.S.)

Kagnenrayen his + mark (L.S.)

Agwirongtonguaghs his X mark (L.S.)

Arongsighraghtha his 4 mark (L.S.)

Oneatanigro his X mark (L.S.)

Kaneyaagh his + mark (L.S.)

Geo. Clinton (L.S.)

Pierre Van Cortlandt (L.S.)

Ezra L'Hommedieu (L.S.)

Abm. Ten Broeck (L.S.)

Peter Gansevoort Junr. (L.S.)

Richd. Varick. (L.S.)

Be it re

Witnesses present,

Sam^l. Kirkland Miss^y and Interpreter

John Lansing Jun^r.

Jos. Brant.

David Hill

John Tayler

Malachi Treat

Wm. Hardenbergh

Peter Otsiquette:

Oneida Chiefs
- Aghwistonishi his X Mark.
- Oneyanha his X Mark.
- Col^l. Honjery his X Mark.

Senecas
- Onongwehhon his X Mark.
- Thoghnawayin his X Mark.

The Governor then addressed the Onondagoes as follows;

Brothers! It affords Us the highest Satisfaction that We have been able at this Time, through the Assistance of the Great Spirit, to bring our Affairs together at this Council Fire: that the Business of it has been conducted with so much Unanimity and Cordiality, and that

Once

Peace and Friendship is so perfectly preserved and confirmed between Us, but above all that Harmony and Good will is restored and established between our Brethren the Onondagoes, who are of the same Blood and whose Prosperity depends upon their Unanimity and Love towards each other.

Brothers! This is all We have to say. We pray that the Great Spirit may protect You on your Journey home and preserve You when there in Peace and happiness.

The Onondagoes then requested that the Money might remain in the Care of the Commissioners till the next Morning; when they would call for it and receive the Provisions necessary for their Journey.

On Thursday Morning the 17th the Onondaga Committee attended and the Money was again counted in their Presence and put up in Boxes and delivered to them, and the Gratuities, with the usual Rewards to their Messengers, were then also delivered to them.

On the same day, to wit, on Thursday the 17 June, the Fish Carrier, with a Number of Chiefs and Warriors of the Cayuga

Nation from Buffaloe Creek assembled at the Council Fire and informed the Commissioners that they were there attending.

The Board being also convened, the Fish Carrier addressed them as follows:

Brothers! We are now met here at your Council Fire: We thank the Great Spirit for his Protection on our Journey and that We now see You here.

Brothers! According to the ancient Custom of our Forefathers, when an Invitation was given to the six Nations they all assembled, before any one of them undertook to return the Message & Belt of Invitation. Our ancient Customs We are much attached to and they ought always to be strictly regarded; but it seems in the present Instance they have not been attended to. Our Brethren the Onondagoes have been received at the Council Fire, returned the Message Belt and have transacted Business before We arrived. This is contrary to our ancient Usage, which We do not wish to depart from.

The Fish Carrier then sat down and the Governor addressed them as follows.

Brothers! I do not pretend to be perfectly acquainted with all your ancient Customs. It is but a short time since I was first called upon to transact Business with my Brethren of the 5

Nations. This much however I can say That I have never intentionally, on my Part, deviated from your ancient Usages. It has invariably been the Case, since I have transacted Business with your Nations, to conduct our Council Fires in the same Manner which has now taken Place with our Brethren the Onondagoes. This was the Case at the Council Fire kindled at this Place soon after the Conclusion of the War. Some of the Nations then addressed me separately. This also was the Case at the last Treaty held at this Place, and I see many now here present who will recollect these Circumstances. Perhaps the peculiar Situation of our Brethren might have induced them to dispense, in some Degree, with the Observance of their former Customs; but this is not to be imputed to me, for it always has been my Desire strictly to adhere to them.

The Fish Carrier then again rose & addressed the Governor as follows,

Brother Governor and your Chiefs open your Ears and attend to what I have to say!

The Reasons You have assigned for any Departure, which may have been made from ancient Usages, are satisfactory to Us, and remove from our Breasts some Difficulties which had lodged there.

I now wash away the Blood that may have been spilt during the late War and wipe the Tears from your Eyes, on Account of your Friends who may have been slain & remove every Obstruction from the Path of Peace, so that Friendship may take Place and subsist between Us.

[A String of 3 Rows of chequered Wampum.]

He then observed that he had received the Meſsage and Belt of Invitation at Buffaloe Creek. These had been returned by their Brothers the Onondagoes. He also observed that they had met at Kanadasegea, a Meſsenger with a String from the Governor to hasten their Journey, which he now returned.

He then informed the Board that all the Nation had not yet arrived, but that he expected to be ready to attend to Busineſs in the Morning.

On Friday Morning the 18th: of June, the Cayugas aſsembled at the Council Fire and the Governor complimented them in the usual Congratulatory Speech on their Health and safe Arrival and presented them with a String of 3 Rows of chequered Wampum to remove all Obstructions to Business: which Captain Brant, at the Request of the Governor, communicated to them in the Indian Language.

The Governor then made the following Speech.

Brothers! According to our ancient Customs, it is now my duty to explain to You the Business for which this Council Fire was kindled. If in the Course of my Speech anything should be mentioned that may be unpleasant or disagreeable to You, I intreat You to believe that it is not done from an Intention to wound your Feelings, but from a Desire that the whole Truth should be disclosed and that all now here present should be fully informed of every Transaction which has taken Place between the People of the State of New York and our Brethren of the 5 Nations, since the Close of the late War; and now I enter on the Task with Pleasure, from a Consciousness that when these Things are understood, I shall stand justified not only before the Great Spirit, but with our Brethren the 5 Nations and all Mankind; for I can with great Truth declare, that it was always my sincere Intention to do Justice to our Brethren the 5 Nations, and to pay as much Regard to their Prosperity and Happiness, as would be consistent with Justice to my Brethren the White People.

In the Course of last Year, I was informed by Reports from the Westward and afterwards by Letters which I received from our Brethren at Buffaloe Creek that Uneasiness and Dissatisfaction prevailed among them, on Account of Agreements which had been entered into between the State and our Brethren the Onondagoes and Cayugas; and altho I am sorry to remark that these Letters were not dictated in as friendly and respectful Terms as might have been expected, yet I immediately returned an Answer to them, informing our Brethren at Buffaloe Creek, that the Powers of the Commissioners for treating with the Indians had expired; but that I would lay their Letters before our Legislature who were to meet early in the Winter, and that I thought it probable they would authorize me to meet our Brethren at a Council Fire, to inquire into the Causes of their Dissatisfaction, and afford any Assistance to heal the Animosities and Discontents which prevailed among them. I accordingly did as I promised, and the Legislature, with as much Expedition as Business can be done in large Bodies, directed me and my Brothers whom You see now present to kindle this Council Fire, and I thereupon im

mediately

immediately dispatched a Messenger, with a Letter of Invitation for You to attend it. The Purport of this Message is contained in what I have now related to You.

Brothers! We arrived here on the day appointed. We have exercised a long Mind in waiting for You and have discovered, in every Respect, a friendly and generous Disposition towards You.

Brothers! It is now necessary, in Order to a full Explanation of Matters between Us, that I should give a Relation of the different Transactions which have taken Place between me & our Brethren of the 5 Nations since the Close of the late War.

As early after that Period as was practicable I kindled a Council Fire at this same Place, and I invited all our Brethren of the 5 Nations to attend it. The Object of that Meeting was to remove the Obstructions which had unhappily taken Place to our friendly Intercourse during the War; to revive the ancient Friendship which had subsisted between our Forefathers, and to brighten the Covenant Chain; Some of the Nations attended and a respectable Number of the Chiefs and Warriors of all the Nations, some of whom I now with Pleasure see here, were there.

Brothers! I then informed You that Peace was restored; That all Animosities which had arisen during the War had now subsided on our Part; That We received You as our Brethren, and that We were desirous of reviving and confirming our ancient Friendship: That We did not blame for the part You had taken: That We had always, previous to the War, considered the King whose Cause You espoused, as our Common Father and had frequently advised You to hold fast to his Chain: That You could not be supposed to be sufficiently acquainted with the Causes which had given Us Dissatisfaction, and occasioned the War, and it was therefore excusable in You to take the Part You did: That many of our White People, who had better Opportunities of Information, took the same Side and We had ever forgiven them and restored them to our Friendship.

At this Meeting Brothers, We told You that your Lands were your own, & notwithstanding any Cession made to Us on the Part of Great Britain, We invited You to return to your Country and possess your Lands in Peace, and lest Dissatisfaction might thereafter arise respecting Transactions which might take Place between You and Us, We took particular Pains to inform You of the Nature of our Government & Laws, as to the Manner of doing Business with our Brethren of the 5 Nations. This Information was agreeable to our ancient Customs before the War, notwithstanding the Change which had taken Place in our Government; And that no white Person had a Right to bargain for or purchase your Lands, without the Consent of our Legislature. That if at any time You should be disposed to sell any Part of your Lands, the State would be ready to purchase it from You. It is true (for I have no Desire that any Part of the Truth should be concealed) that at that Meeting I mentioned to You the Losses We had sustained during the War, and that a small Cession of your Lands to enable Us to reward our young Warriors for their Services, would be very acceptable to Us; ⓐ but finding that the Persons attending from your Nation did not conceive themselves authorized, agreeable to your ancient Customs, to make such Cession I did not persist in urging it.

These are the principal Matters which then took Place and for the truth of what I have now said I can with great Confidence appeal to all who were present. We parted with great Cordiality and good Will towards each other, and I had Reason to believe that Peace and Friendship were again restored and perfectly established.

Brothers! In this happy Situation We continued for upwards of three Years. At length Reports were brought to Us, that some of our disobedient

Children had been among You and, without our Authority and Consent had purchased from our Brethren & the 5 Nations all their Lands. I was astonished at this, and could hardly believe it, after the very full Explanation which had taken Place between Us, as to the Manner of transacting such Business.

I had almost concluded that it was a Story of the little Birds; but observing that a great Number, not only of our own disobedient Children, but of those from different States around Us, were rushing into your Country, and settling themselves down there in Defiance of our Laws and Government, I began to credit the Report, and was soon after confirmed of the Truth of it, by their producing to me your Deeds for the Lands. This Conduct, so contrary to our ancient and established Customs, I was apprehensive would occasion much Evil both to You and to Us, and be the Cause of great Discontent. It is true, our Arm was long and strong enough to have reached our disobedient Children and to have removed them from thence ~~and to have removed them~~ from ~~thence~~ and to have punished them; but We had Reason to believe that they were countenanced by some of our Brethren of the 5 Nations, and if We were to pursue rigorous Measures, Consequences of too serious a Nature might take Place and disturb our mutual Peace. This Brethren induced our Legislature to direct me, agreeable to our ancient Customs, to light up a Council Fire and to invite our Brethren of the 5 Nations to attend it, and to concert Measures with them for healing the Animosities which were like to take Place; and to avert the Evils which were likely to result from your Conduct, in departing from the ancient Customs established between Us.

Brothers! Two Years ago I accordingly proposed kindling a Council Fire at this Place, and I invited my Brethren of the 5 Nations to attend it in the Beginning of June. In my Letter of Invitation I explained very fully the Nature and Importance of the Business and I not only invited but intreated You to attend. But I soon after heard that Congress had proposed kindling a Council Fire at the Muskingum and had invited our Brethren of the 5 Nations to attend there. I was not particularly informed of the Nature of the Business to be transacted at that Council, and lest your Attendance there might interfere with the Council Fire I had proposed to kindle at this Place, I postponed my Council Fire to the 25th day of August and renewed my Invitation to my Brethren of the 5 Nations to attend at this Place at that Time. I accordingly attended here and found my Brethren the Onondagoes on the Ground; but wishing to have as many of that Nation present as possible I delayed entering upon Business for 14 days, when being informed that a National Representation, agreeable to their ancient Usage, were present, and that they were ready to proceed upon Business, We commenced our Negociations with them and in the Course of which every Transaction was fully explained and after much Deliberation which was attended with great Cordiality and Solemness, an Agreement was concluded to the mutual Satisfaction of both Parties and I am happy now to inform You, that this Agreement has, at the present Council Fire, been confirmed by the whole Nation and that perfect Reconciliation and Harmony appears to have taken Place among them.

Our Brethren the Oneidas also attended at this Meeting, according to Invitation and an Agreement equally satisfactory to both Parties was entered into with them. But our Brethren the Cayugas, the only remaining Nation with whom We had Business to transact, did not attend. We had invited You agreeable to the ancient Usage of our Forefathers. We exercised a very long Mind in waiting for your Arrival, but You did not come. You did not listen to our Voice. We could invite You, but it was not in our Power to oblige You to attend. I was on that Business near two Months from home. It was still my Intention to meet my Brethren the

Cayugas and accordingly, before I left this Place, sent a Letter of Invitation to them to attend a Council Fire, which I proposed to kindle at Albany in the Beginning of the Winter. This was the Place where our Forefathers anciently met and I conceived, that as I had come so far and waited so long to meet them, there could be no Objection to their coming to Albany to meet me, especially as the Business was of equal Importance to their Welfare and Happiness as to ours. I attended at Albany at the time appointed, and waited there a long time, in Expectation of seeing my Cayuga Brethren; at Length a Number of them arrived: We did not however enter upon Business with them, having some Hopes that a greater Number of their Nation would attend; but finding our Embarrassments to the Westward increasing by an additional Number of People going to settle there, and despairing that any other of our Brethren of the Cayugas would meet Us, We proceeded upon the Business of the Council, being previously assured by the Cayugas who attended, that having taken all Circumstances into Consideration they were sufficiently authorized and would stand justified to their Nation in entering into an Agreement with Us, to defeat the Evils which threatened our mutual Peace and Happiness. Many Days were spent in our Negociations: Our Deliberations were conducted with Cordiality and Sobriety and at Length We entered into a Covenant with each other to our mutual Satisfaction.

It is unnecessary to repeat the Particulars of this Covenant to You, as We are sensible You are fully informed of it. It is sufficient to say that the Terms of it were equally advantageous to your Nation, if not more so, than those which We had concluded with our Brethren of the Onondagoes and Oneidas. We paid a considerable Sum of Money down and with the Consent of the Cayugas with whom We negociated and who appeared to Us disposed to do perfect Justice to the other Part of the Nation, We retained a very considerable Sum of Money in our hands until the first of June following, being the day of the first annual Payment and upwards of three Months after the Agreement was perfected. This Sum, with an annual Payment stipulated to be made, We sent to this Place by our Agent on the day appointed. He waited here a long time for the Arrival of your Nation, a considerable Number of whom at Length came; among whom were several who We understood resided at Buffaloe Creek and who joined in signing the Receipt for the Money. If equal Justice has therefore not been done to the different Members of your Nation; the Blame is not to be imputed to Us: We could use no other Precaution than what We did to prevent Injustice. We could ask You to attend but We could not compel You. This Brethren is a true and faithful Relation of the different Transactions which have taken Place between Us and our Brethren of the 5 Nations, since the Close of the late War; and for the truth of which I now appeal to all now here present. If in any thing I have mistaken let them come forward and correct me; for I am as all other Men are, liable to Err, altho' I mean to speak the Truth only.

It will now be proper Brethren that We should take a short Review of these different Transactions, in Order that We may be able to form a proper Judgment on the Subject and determine who is to blame. While I am doing this, I request your Attention and that You will divest Yourselves of Prejudice and hear me with Candor; and if in the Course of what I shall say any thing shall pass that may occasion disagreeable Sensations in your Minds, rest assured that it will not be with Design to wound your Feelings. I come not here to irritate, but to heal Animosities, and to promote Friendship.

It will appear then from what I have related, that as soon as the War was over,

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I kindled a Council Fire and invited our Brethren of the 5 Nations to it, to renew our ancient Friendships and brighten the Covenant Chain. This was agreeable to the ancient Usages of our Forefathers. These, Brethren We considered sacred for they are the Result of Experience & founded in Wisdom. We also, in Order to preserve our Friendship between Us explained to You the Manner in which Business was to be transacted between Us in future. On the other hand Brothers let Us examine what has been your Conduct. You have listened to the Stories of the Birds. You declined meeting Us at a Council Fire, kindled for the Purpose of removing Uneasiness and restoring Friendship. Was this Condition Brothers agreeable to the Customs of our Forefathers and ancient Usage? You received among You our disobedient Children, entered into Treaties with them, and sold your whole Country to them even the Places of your Nativity. What was our Conduct on this Occasion? Notwithstanding all the Evils You had by this Measure brought upon Us, altho' the Peace of our Government was disturbed and our Friendship with our Brethren of the 5 Nations endangered, We discovered no Marks of Ill will or Resentment towards You. We again proposed to kindle a Council Fire at this Place, in Order to concert Measures for our mutual Good & prevent the Evils which threatened Us. This was another

Instance of our Attachment to the Usages of our Forefathers. What was your Condition at this Time? After You had refused our Invitation, You again treated with our disobedient Children and confirmed the Agreement with them for the Sale of your Lands which had occasioned to Us so much Trouble and threatened our Peace. You did not meet Us, but declined accepting our Invitation. Was this Brothers agreeable to your ancient Customs? Our Brethren of the Onondagoes and Oneidas listened to our Voice. They met Us and lasting Agreements were entered into between Us and them respectively, which were for our mutual Advantage; and We appeal to these Nations some of whom are now present whether We have not faithfully performed these Agreements on our Part. From this State of Facts then Brothers, We may venture to ask even yourselves which had paid the greatest Regard to the Customs of our Forefathers, or who is to blame for the Evils which have taken Place. I am conscious that my Friendship for You was sincere; that I possessed a Disposition to do You the strictest Justice, and to preserve inviolate your ancient Usages, and I now meet You possessed with the same Spirit of Peace and Friendship: and my first desire is to restore Harmony and Reconciliation among my Brethren of the Cayugas, who are of the same Blood. It was for this Purpose that I proposed meeting You at this Time. I came here upon the Day appointed and I have exercised much Patience in waiting for your Arrival, altho' I had almost despaired of seeing You, for on my Way to this Place, I met a Gentleman who is now present with a Power of Attorney from some of You, to transact the Business for You with Us. Was this Brothers the Manner of transacting Business between our Forefathers and yours! Is this agreeable to our ancient Customs, for which You have professed so sacred a Regard?

Brothers! Formerly when any Difficulties or Uneasinesses arose between Us they were adjusted at a Council Fire where We met Face to Face and consulted for our mutual Good. This salutary Custom Brothers I have on my Part endeavoured to pursue, and I am now happy to see You here; and You may rest assured of our best Services to promote Peace and Reconciliation; and if in any Instance You have just Cause of Complaint, to do You the most ample Justice, for without this I can not expect the Blessing of the Great Spirit.

Brothers! I have nothing further to say. When You have consulted together, I shall be ready to receive your Reply and the earliest

in-can be given the more acceptable it will be to Us.

When the Governor had closed, the Fish Carrier rose and after mentioning that they had chosen Capt. Joseph Brant as their Mouth on this Occasion, through him he made the following Speech.

Brother Governor of New York and your Chiefs open your Ears & attend to what I have to say!

I thank the Great Spirit that he has protected Us and enabled Us again to meet together, and that We have thus far proceeded upon the Business of the Council Fire, with Harmony and Satisfaction.

Brother Governor! You have repeated to Us the different Transactions which have taken Place between You and the 5 Nations since the Close of the War. You mentioned to Us you having kindled a Council Fire at this Place soon after that Period. Your Views & Objects in so doing, and the different Matters which passed between You and those Nations at that time. You informed Us at that time, that our Country was our own, and invited Us to return to it and enjoy it. That nothing but Peace prevailed with You and We to the Westward were in Pursuit of the same. You also have mentioned to Us the different Transactions which have taken Place since that

Period: We will not go into a particular Recapitulation of your Speech. We are Witneſses to the Truth of all your Declarations. We acknowledge that You have paid a due Regard to the Customs of our Ancestors and that You are not chargeable with any Evils which have taken Place among Us.

Brother Governor! We have listened patiently and with Attention to what You have said; and We have frankly confeſsed that You are not to blame for any of the Evils which have taken Place. I now call upon You and your Chiefs to attend in Turn and hear me while I aſsign my Reasons to You, for my Conduct. We were in the quiet Poſseſsion of our Country & thought of nothing but Peace and Friendship, when a Number of your People came among Us and proposed purchasing or leasing from Us our Land. We doubted of the Propriety of such a Measure, We supposed it was contrary to your Laws and our ancient Customs; but they removed these Difficulties from our Breasts, by aſsuring Us that they were authorized by our Brother the Governor and the other Chiefs of the State to make these Proposals to Us and as some of them appeared to be Men of Character and We knew from their Names they were connected with some of the first People of the State & others of them bore Commiſsions under the State, We were induced to believe them & accordingly agreed with them for the Sale of our Lands, without supposing that We were doing any thing disagreeable to You or what was wrong.

Brother Governor! You mentioned that the peculiar Situation of the 5 Nations might have led them to depart in some Instance from a strict Observance of some of their ancient Customs, and this may account in some Measure for our Conduct in disposing of our Lands to your People.

Brother Governor! In the next Place, these same People again came to our Great Council Fire at Buffaloe Creek, about two Years ago; They were accompanied by People from Boston, who had a Commission under the Seal of that State, to purchase our Lands from Us, and they requested Us to give them a Confirmation of the Deed or Lease which We had formerly given to them. We were then deliberating upon Affairs which were very interesting to the Indians, and We were also preparing to attend the Council Fire to the Southward. We at first declined complying with their Request or doing any Business with these People, alleging that We had received your Invitation to attend a Council Fire which You proposed to kindle at this Place: but they pressed Us very hard to comply. They alleged that if they did not, every thing would be in Confusion and they would get nothing for their Lands and again positively asserted that they were authorized and sent to get a Confirmation from Us, by our Brother the Governor and the Chiefs of New York and We were the more easily induced to believe them from their being in Company with the People of Boston, who had Authority to purchase our Lands from Us, as We were informed by our Superintendant. These People also then mentioned another Reason to induce Us to comply with their Request, which had great Weight with Us: They told Us that a great many Peoples had settled at Tioga Point and in that Quarter and that the State had granted to them those Lands, without paying Us any thing for them, and in the same Manner the State would grant all our Lands, unless We complied with their Request & gave them a Confirmation.

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Brothers! These Considerations induced Us at Length to comply. We are convinced it was wrong to listen to these Men: but We can assure You that our Conduct was not dictated by an unfriendly Disposition towards You, for from the Representation of these People, We did not believe We were acting against your Will or doing wrong, by holding the Treaty.

Brothers! I have nothing further to say but again to thank You for your candid Speech

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&c and friendly Disposition to Us of the 5 Nations, and particularly for the Desire You and your Chiefs have expressed to heal the Animosities which subsisted and of restoring Peace among Us.

To which the Governor replied as follows;

Brothers! I am happy to observe that the Relation I have given You of the different Transactions which have taken Place between the State and the 5 Nations, was perfectly satisfactory to You, and that You are now fully convinced of the Friendship and Attention We have paid to your Prosperity & Happiness.

I have listened attentively to the Reasons You have assigned for your Conduct and I now acquit You of any evil or unfriendly Design in any thing You have done; being fully persuaded that the Measures which have taken Place and occasioned Discontent, originated from the Story of the Birds and the evil Intentions of some of our bad People.

It gives Us particular Pleasure that the truth is now so well understood on both Sides; for this being the Case, a just & amicable Settlement between Us cannot fail of taking Place. ——

Brothers! I have a
few

few Words to say, to remove from your Minds any wrong Impression which may have taken Place with Respect to the Lands at Tioga Point. It is true a great Number of White People had settled there, some of them from this but mos of them unruly Men from the neighbouring States; They came there without our Consent, and connected themselves with our disobedient Children who had been leasing your Lands from You an held their Possessions under them. They bid Defiance to our Authority and drove off such of our People as went in that Quarter, and refused to take their Titles under them; they boasted too that a Number of our Brethren the Indians would join to protect them in their unlawful Proceedings. We had Strength sufficient to have brought them to a Sense of their duty; but this would have been by Means which would have interrupted the Peace which subsisted between Us and our Brethren the 6 Nations. We therefore declined those Measures, and were reduced to the Necessity of promising to those Peoples Grants for their Lands, when the same should be legally purchased from the Indians who were the Proprietors thereof. Brothers! This is a true State of the Matter and You must be convinced that instead of being to blame, our Conduct in this Respect was an additional Evidence of a peaceable Disposition and of our Friendship towards You.

Brothers: I have nothing further to add, only to request that You will retire and deliberate upon what has been said and to assure You that I will hear any Proposition which You may have to make, with Impartiality and Candour: That I consider myself as under the Eye of the Great Spirit and therefore bound to do the strictest Justice; and that I am disposed to do even more than Justice, to remove every Cause of Complaint and to restore Harmony and Friendship.

The Cayugas then retired to their Huts.

On Saturday the 19th of June the Cayuga Nation attended at the Council Fire and the Fish Carrier addressed the Board as follows:

Brother Governor with your Commissioners You will now attend, as We have again met together having mutually shared the Protection of the Great Spirit since We met yesterday. You will now attend and open your Ears well. Yesterday You made Us fully acquainted with the various Transactions which had taken place between You and our Nations since the War.

You have brought them up to View as they are in your Remembrance; We are glad that they are so perfectly in your Recollection, and that You have so good a knowledge of the ancient Customs of our Forefathers. We are exceedingly rejoiced that our Brother of New York and his Commissioners are so well disposed towards their Brethren of the 5 Nations.

There is one thing more You said Yesterday which rejoiced Us more than any thing You said; That is the Respect You had for the Great Spirit above, and that You consider yourself answerable to him for all your Actions. That your Ears are open to hear Us.

We must conclude that You undoubtedly suppose that the Great Spirit had given Us this Territory.

Every thing You said has been grateful to Us. There is one Brother of the Confederacy not here which would have been agreeable.

Here are our elder Brother the Oneida and the Younger Brother the Delawares, our adopted Brother, the Tuscaroras (a) and the elder Tribe of the Mohawks. These are now present and hear what I say.

Brother Governor and Commissioners open a candid Ear. I am exceedingly glad to see your Faces and to speak with You at this Place. This is what We have long wished for, at our Council Fire at the Buffaloe. We have spoken much to You by Letter, agreeable to your Custom, and even sent to your Council Place at New York, all purporting an Adjustment of the Difficulties which had arisen: These are the Purport of what brought

Us now here.

Brother! Continue to open your Ear! I must again repeat it, that We have great Satisfaction at meeting You at this Place. It is true that our Minds have been for some time uneasy, wishing for a righteous Adjustment of our Affairs. This Uneasiness has not only occupied the Breasts of Us Chiefs, but even the Women and Children have inquired what is become of their Country, for they have received no Compensation.

Brother Governor, open your Ears! You have now heard in few Words what it is that has given Uneasiness to our Minds; and Brother You cannot have a calm Mind when your Brothers are uneasy. both Sides must have a contented Mind to make them easy.

Brother Governor, continue to open your Ears while We are speaking upon the Subject of mutual Friendship and establishing a permanent Peace amongst Us. If one Party enjoys Peace, he will still be wounded if the other Party is not easy. Now Brother attend while your Brothers the Cayugas speak about a Compensation for their Country, an excellent Country. They will ask You 4,000 Dollars as a full Compensation therefor.

Brother Governor! You will open your Ears to what was agreed upon in our Council at Buffaloe Creek, towards removing all our Uneasiness. We have a Reserve which You left to Us and We have agreed that a Part of it shall be given to Major Peter Schuyler. That Part We will previously point out to You. We have further agreed that our Cousin the Steel Trap shall remain where he is at what was formerly called the Lower Village.

Brother! You will continue to open your Ears when We assign a Reason for this Resolution at Buffaloe Creek. We consider that Reserve assigned to Us, as circumscribed by Lands to be given to others, and that they will be overpowered by the strong Waters: But if my Cousin Steel Trap chooses to continue there, why let him remain, but it is our Judgment that it will not be his own for We do not consider the Reserve as our own. This is the Purport of our Agreement at a full Council at Buffaloe Creek and no one can hereafter say he was not acquainted with it.

And one thing more Brother, as to any Annual Payment by Way of Quit Rent, We leave that to your Breasts.

(A Belt with Rows and three X Crosses of White Wampums.)

The Governor requested the Indians to keep their Seats a few Minutes until the Commissioners could take their Proposals into Consideration and then retired.

The Commissioners having returned and being seated the Governor, by their Direction, addressed the Cayugas as follows;

Brother!

2d Brothers! We have listened very attentively to what You have said and have considered your Proposals with the greatest Impartiality and Candour.

Brothers! I informed you yesterday of the Covenant We had entered into at Albany with our Brethren of your Nation, and of every Circumstance respecting that Transaction. This Agreement was made after much Deliberation, and I sincerely believe it is calculated to promote our mutual happiness. It therefore cannot be violated in any Particular. Several of our Brothers and Sisters of your Nation with their little ones attended the Council Fire at Albany. They were utterly averse to parting with the Place of their Nativity. It was their earnest Desire to preserve to themselves and their Posterity forever, their present Place of Residence. This also appeared to Us reasonable and We cheerfully consented to it; no Part therefore of the Lands reserved to them, can be given to any other Person. We have hitherto performed our Part of that Covenant faithfully and We cannot answer for it to the Great Spirit or to our Constituents, if We should consent to its Violation. What would You Yourselves think of Us, were We to consent to a Breach of this Covenant? or what Confidence would our Brethren the Onondagoes and Oneidas, with whom We have also entered into Agreements, place on Us, if We should be guilty of so great an Act of Injustice.

Brothers!

Brother! This Covenant must remain firm and unalterable forever.

Brothers! I am particularly instructed by the Commissioners to inform You, that Major Peter Schuyler was concerned with Dr Benton and others, who attempted contrary to our Constitution and Laws and the ancient Usages which subsisted between Us, to purchase from You, Your whole Country, whereby so much Uneasiness, Discontent and Trouble have been occasioned and to express to You in the strongest Terms their Astonishment, that in Order to reward this Man, You should now ask to violate a solemn Agreement, by giving him a Part of the Lands reserved for our Brothers the Cayugas.

Brothers! By your unlawful Sales You had parted with the Places of your Nativity & even with the Bones of your Ancestors; reserving a few Acres only of your Country for the Convenience of fishing. We have no Right, nor are We disposed to interfere, if some of You choose to reside in one Place and others in another; but while any of You wish to continue at your ancient Place of Residence, We cannot consistent with Justice dispose of any of the Lands comprized in the Reservation.

Brothers! You might as well ask Us to reward a Child for lifting up his hand against his Father, as to reward a public Officer for betraying the Trust reposed in him by the People. Major Peter Schuyler was a Commissioner of Indian

Affairs when your Transaction with Benton and his Company (of whom Mr. Schuyler was one) commenced; and he then held other important Offices under the State.

Brothers! If on this Occasion I have discovered some Warmth, You must excuse it; it is excited by your asking me to do what I conceived to be wrong.

Brother! We came not here to violate Agreements, but to confirm them; and to afford You our friendly Assistance, to heal the Animosities and Divisions which We were informed subsisted between You, who are of the same Blood; and whose Happiness depends on your being united and loving one another. This was the Purport of our Message of Invitation to You.

Brothers! This desirable Object We have already effected with our Brethren the Onondagoes, at considerable Expence; and they have gone home united and happy; and We are disposed to be equally generous to You, if the same good End can be accomplished.

Brothers! You demand of Us more than You sold your whole Country for to Benton and his Company. By your last Agreement with him, which as well as the first now lays here before Us, You and the Onondagoes together were to receive only one thousand Dollars annually, the first Payment to commence the 4th of July in the next Year. By your Agreement with

you

your Nation and the Onondagoes We are to pay You and them 1,000 Dollars annually. The first Payment commenced last Year and have been actually made on the day stipulated; besides We paid to You and them very considerable Sums down, and reserved to each of your Nations large Tracts of your Country with other very important Privileges.

Brothers! Give Us Credit for what We have already paid and We stand ready to pay You, if not already done, as much for your Lands, as upon a fair Calculation You were to receive for it from Dr. Benton. This is all You can reasonably ask or expect. You have told Us in your Letters that You have sold your Lands, and if You are only paid the Money You are to get for it, it is immaterial to You, who possesses it, for You have parted with it. This We are now willing to give You (if We have not already done it) and even something more, if thereby Reconciliation and Friendship, on which your Happiness so much depends, can be restored among You. I am sensible it may be alleged, that further Sums than those specified in your Leases to Dr. Benton and others, were to be paid to You by them; but I am well apprized of the Manner in which all that Business was transacted. I have no Doubt but considerable Sums were promised to Individuals; This was the Case with our Brothers the Oneidas, to the Amount of more than 2000 Dollars: but it was done without the Knowledge of the Chiefs or principal Men and the Nation at large would have reaped no Advantage from these Promises.

Brothers! I have only to add, that We expect that our Negociations will be solely with the Indians, without the Interference of any white Man, and that they will receive whatever We may agree to give them.

I shall now retire and leave You to deliberate on what I have said, and I expect an early Answer. If the Appointment of a Committee to examine the Papers and confer upon the Subject is agreeable to You, it will tend to expedite Business. This was the Case with our Brothers the Onondagoes, and they declared it to be perfectly consistent with their ancient Customs.

The Commissioners then retired and soon after the Cayugas went to their Huts.

On the Evening of the same day the Board were informed that the Cayugas had appointed a Committee of their Nation who would attend with Mr. Street for the purpose above mentioned on the next Morning if agreeable to the Commissioners.

On Sunday the 20th of June the

Committee of the Cayugas consisting of two Sachems from Buffaloe Creek accordingly attended at the Commissioners Quarters accompanied by Mr. Street, Capt. Brant and Dr. Gale.

The Governor commenced the Business by producing to them the Deed of Cession entered into between their Nation and the Commissioners at Albany. He stated to them the Sum paid in the first Instance as a Consideration; The Measures which had been taken by the Commissioners to effect an equal Distribution of the Money between the whole Nation, by retaining the greater Part thereof in their Hands until the first day of last June, being the day appointed for the first annual Payment; He also shewed them that the annual Payment of five hundred Dollars to their Nation was equal to the Sum stipulated to be made to their Nation by the Confirmation to Dr. Benton and others, admitting their Country and that of the Onondagoes to be equally valuable, whereas that of the Onondagoes was a much larger Territory: That by the Agreement with the State the first annual Payment had already commenced on the first Day of last June, whereas by the Confirmation to Dr. Benton and Co. their annual Payment was not to commence till the 4th. day of July 1791. That exclusive of this Advantage a very extensive Tract of Country was reserved to them, and the Privileges of Fishing & Hunting as usual; so that in every Point of View, the Agreement entered into with the State was the most advantageous to them; and he concluded by observing that notwithstanding they were placed in a much better Situation than they would have been if the Agreement entered into by them with Dr. Benton had been confirmed; the Commiſsioners were willing, from a sincere Desire of restoring Harmony and Friendship among them, and removing every Cause of Complaint, to give them, as a Benevolence, the same Sum of Money and Value in Clothing which they had given to their Brethren the Onondagoes, whereby they would be enabled still to make such a Distribution among themselves as to remove Discon

The Committee listened with great Attention to what the Governor said and appeared to be well satisfied, When Mr. Street officiously attempted Calculations upon what he alleged the Leſsees were to have had, but of which no Evidence was produced. This Conduct of Mr. Street appeared to be intended to defeat the favorable Impreſsions made upon the Minds of the Indians. Capt. Brant appeared to be displeased with Mr. Street's Behaviour foreign to the Busineſs of their Appointment.

On Monday Morning the 21st of June the Fish Carrier with the two Sachems above mentioned and two principal Warriors from Buffaloe's Creek again attended at the Commiſsioners Quarters, and the Governor again entered into the same Explanation with them which had taken Place Yesterday; and moreover shewed the Receipt of the last Years Annual Payment, which appeared to be signed by several of the Indians residing at Buffaloe Creek who had not attended the Treaty at Albany. He also agreed to give them a larger Quantity of Clothing than had been given to the Onondagoes on Account of there being a larger Number of that Nation who resided at Buffaloe Creek. The Indians expreſsed their Satisfaction with the Terms offered to them and retired to convene the Nation to compleat the Buſineſs.

In the Afternoon the last mentioned Committee of the Indians returned to the Commiſsioners Quarters, and intimated a Desire of a further Explanation upon the Subject of their late Conference: And Mr. Street who was present and through whose Influence there was Reason to believe some Diſsatisfaction had taken Place among these Indians, again attempted to make Calculations designed to defeat the Views of the Commiſsioners; but the Commiſsioners protested against admitting any Part of the Transactions with the Leſsees as the Basis of the present

Negociation; but his Reasonings appeared to have little Influence upon the Indians, who again retired apparently well satisfied.

On Tuesday Morning the 22nd of June the Cayuga Nation attended at the Council Fire when the *Fish Carrier* made the following Speech to the Commissioners.

Brother Governor of New York with your Commissioners. You will now attend & open your Ears.

The Great Spirit has given Us this day to meet again at the Council Fire. After many Conversations together since our first Meeting and after much Deliberation of both Parties, You have found the Means of restoring Peace and Amity between Us. This Event, Brother, We must attribute to You. Our Peace is one and the same thing. The Great Spirit therefore will have Justice done to each Party; when any Misunderstanding or Misrepresentation has interrupted their Peace and Friendship is again restored, it is agreeable to his Pleasure. You have complied with every Desire and Wish of ours, particularly in your last Promise that You would make your Assembly acquainted with our Wishes and We have therefore acceded to every Proposal of yours to bring about this Accommodation.

Brother! Having determined to accede to all your Proposals and having perfectly understood them, after a Conversation among ourselves We have this day determined to establish our Peace & accordingly confirm the Agreement between Us; We now therefore make this public Declaration in the Hearing of all here present, of our acceding to the Proposals and this day confirming the same.

Brother! This is all We have to say.

Whereupon the Governor answered as follows,

Brothers! Our mutual Thanks are due to the Great Spirit for having brought Us together this day and for inspiring Us with such Dispositions towards each other, as to remove all Causes of Uneasiness and to establish Harmony and Friendship between Us. You may rest assured that We will hold fast to the Covenant Chain and that every thing We have promised shall be faithfully performed: and that it shall be our constant Endeavour to promote the Happiness and Prosperity of our Brothers the Cayugas wherever they may reside.

Brother! As a Testimony of our Affection for our Sisters of your Nation at Buffaloe Creek and their little ones, I present You with this String to be delivered to them with a small Donation of Clothing, which You see there laying for their Use.

Nothing now remains but to

perfect the Agreement according to ancient Usage, and for Us to make the Payment stipulated and deliver the Benevolences promised to You.

The Money was then brought before them and counted and the Goods produced and examined with the Invoices by Mr. Street; and the Instruments of Ratification, comprising a Receipt for the annual Payment for this Year, was executed in the Presence of the Oneida Nation, Captain Joseph Brant and many other Witnesses.

Captn. Brant on this Occasion also inserted the Indian Names in the Instrument of Ratification. The said Instrument is in the Words following viz.

"At a Treaty held at Fort Stanwix in
"the State of New York by his Excellency
"George Clinton Esquire Governor of the
"said State, Pierre Van Cortlandt Esqr.
"Lieutenant Governor of the said State
"Ezra L'Hommedieu, Abraham Ten Broeck
"Peter Gansevoort Junior and Richard
"Varick Esquires Commissioners autho-
-rized for that Purpose by and on Behalf
"of the People of the State of New York
"with the Sachems, Chiefs & Warriors
"of the Tribe or Nation of Indians cal-
"led the Cayugas, on the twenty second

"Day of June in the Year one thousand
"seven hundred and ninety.

"We the said Cayugas do hereby acknowledge to
"have received from the People of the State of New
York the Sum of five hundred Dollars in Silver,
"being the annual Payment stipulated to be made
"to Us the said Cayugas on the first day of June
Instant, in and by certain Articles of Agreement
"or Deeds of Cession hereunto annexed executed
"at the City of Albany, by and between the People
"of the said State, by their Commissioners autho-
"rized for that Purpose and several of the said
"Cayugas for and in Behalf of the said Tribe
"or Nation, and bearing Date the twenty fifth
Day of February in the Year one thousand
"seven hundred and eighty nine; And also
"the further Sum of one thousand Dollars as
a Benevolence. And We the said Cayugas
"in Consideration thereof Do by these Presents
"fully, freely and absolutely ratify & confirm
"the said Agreement and Cession and all and
"singular the Articles, Covenants, Matters and
"Things therein expressed and contained, on the
"Part of Us the said Cayugas done or to be done,
"executed or performed; And We the said Caya-
"gas Do further hereby grant, and release to the
"People of the State of New York, all our Right, In-
terest and Claim in and to all Lands lying East
of

of the Line of Cession by the State of "New York to the Commonwealth of Massa"chusetts, except the Lands mentioned in "the said Deed of Cession hereunto annexed "to be reserved to Us the Cayugas and our "Posterity."

"In Testimony whereof as well "the Sachems, Chiefs and Warriors of the "Cayugas, as the Governor and other "Commissioners in Behalf of the "People of the State of New York "have hereunto interchangeably "set their Hands and affixed their "Seals the day and Year first above "written".

Shogedaes his X mark L.S.
Tehagensereghtha his X mark L.S.
Tehaghyaghsayen his X mark L.S.
Thadeaghares his mark L.S.
Atsiaaktatye his X mark L.S.
Ongweghgowagh his X mark L.S.
Oghskadaongh his X mark L.S.
Tekaraghkho his X mark L.S.
Tewaghtaghgote his X mark L.S.
Skonenghsowane his X mark L.S.

[illegible]

"Day of June in the Year one thousand
"seven hundred and ninety.

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"have received from the People of the State of New
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"being the annual Payment stipulated to be made
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"Instant, in and by certain Articles of Agreement
"or Deeds of Cession hereunto annexed & executed
"at the City of Albany, by and between the People
"of the said State, by their Commissioners autho-
"rized for that Purpose and several of the said
"Cayugas for and in Behalf of the said Tribe
"or Nation, and bearing Date the twenty fifth
"Day of February in the Year one thousand
"seven hundred and eighty nine; And also
"the further Sum of one thousand Dollars as
"a Benevolence. And We the said Cayugas
"in Consideration thereof Do by these Presents
"fully, freely and absolutely ratify & confirm
"the said Agreement and Cession and all and
"singular the Articles, Covenants, Matters and
"Things therein expressed and contained, on the
"Part of Us the said Cayugas done or to be done,
"executed or performed; And We the said Caya-
"gas Do further hereby grant, and release to the
"People of the State of New York, all our Right, In-
"terest and Claim in and to all Lands lying East
of

of the Line of Ceſsion by the State of "New York to the Commonwealth of Maſsa-"chusetts, except the Lands mentioned in "the ſaid Deed of Ceſsion hereunto annexed "to be reserved to Us the Cayugas and our "Posterity.""

"In Testimony whereof as well "the Sachems, Chiefs and Warriors of the "Cayugas, as the Governor and other "Commiſsioners on Behalf of the "People of the State of New York "have hereunto interchangeably "set their Hands and affixed their "Seals the day and Year first above "written".

Shogedaes	his X Mark	L.S.
Tehagenseraghtha	his X Mark	L.S.
Tehaghyaghsayen	his X Mark	L.S.
Thodeaghares	his Mark	L.S.
Atsiaaktatye	his X Mark	L.S.
Ongweghgonagh	his X Mark	L.S.
Oghskadaongh	his X Mark	L.S.
Tekaraghkho	his X Mark	L.S.
Tewaghtaghgote	his X Mark	L.S.
Skonenghsawane	his X Mark	L.S.

Kaneny

Kanonghsayenton his Mark (L.S.)

Kaghnewiyoo his Mark (L.S.)

Ojagoghte alias Fish Carrier his Mark (L.S.)

Shagoyeghwatha his Mark (L.S.)

Ogonghsaniyonte his Mark (L.S.)

Karenghyageton his Mark (L.S.)

Teyentharoghgengh his Mark (L.S.)

Karenhodon his Mark (L.S.)

Oghnichwenton his Mark (L.S.)
{signed by the Fish Carrier in the Absence of the above}

Teyoronghyongoah his Mark (L.S.)

Teyornhaquente his Mark (L.S.)

Tehaghsharanegeah his Mark (L.S.)

Teyoyaghyagongh his Mark (L.S.)

Kanentagonra (L.S.)

Geo: Clinton (L.S.)
Pierre Van Cortlandt (L.S.)
Ezra L'Hommedieu (L.S.)
Abm. Ten Broeck (L.S.)

Peter Gansevoort Junr (L.S.)
Richd Varick (L.S.)

Sealed & Delivered
in Presence of }

The Word (State) was interlined
before the Ensealing & Delivery also
was interlined the Word (Instant)
before the Ensealing & Delivery. }

Saml Kirkland Missy
Jos: Brant.
Abm Hardenbergh.
Saml Gale Junr.
Geo: Tappen.
Ch: Newkerck.
Elisha Kane
Peter Otsiquette

Oneida Chiefs {
Aghwiston his X Mark
Oneyanha his Mark
Gaghsaweta his Mark
}

The Board then Resolved that Richard Varick pay to John Taylor Esqr. the Agent of this Board the Sum of six hundred Pounds to be applied by him for

Defraying

414 defraying the Expences of the present Treaty, for which Sum he is to be answerable to the People of the State of New York.

The Remainder of this day was spent in auditing and adjusting the Claims of Samuel Kirkland the Interpreter and others who had performed Services or furnished Supplies for the Treaty and in making Preparations to set out for Albany the next Morning.

On Wednesday the 23rd. of June about 8 OClock in the Morning the Commissioners embarked on Board of Batteaux for Schenectady and arrived from thence at Albany on Friday the 25th. —

At a Meeting of the Commissioners appointed to hold Treaties with the Indians at the House of Abraham Bloodgood on Saturday the 26th day of June 1790.

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton
His Honor Lieut. Governor Van Cortlandt.
Ezra L'Hommedieu } { Peter Gansevoort Junr.
Abraham Ten Broeck } { and Richard Varick.

The Accounts of Abraham Bloodgood and others for Services performed were audited and adjusted.

The Commissioners then re=
Resolved

#2 Resolved that Richard Varick out of the Monies in his hands, pay to John Tayler Esq. the Agent to this Board, the Sum of five hundred Pounds to be applied by him to defray the Expences of the Treaty lately held with the Indians, for which Sum he is to be accountable to the People of the State of New York.

The Commissioners then delivered to Mr. Varick a Certificate, that out of the public Monies in his hands, he had at different Times, pursuant to the Directions of the Board, paid to the Onondaga and Cayuga Nations and to particular Indians of different Nations attending at the Treaty, as Benevolence and for Services performed by them, several Sums of Money, amounting in the whole to one thousand seven hundred and seventy three and an half Dollars.

The Board also delivered to Mr. John Tayler a Certificate, that in their Presence he had paid to the Oneida, Onondaga, and Cayuga Nations the annual Payments due to them respectively on the first day of June Instant and amounting in the whole to one thousand six hundred Dollars.

The Board also took into Consideration the Allowance to be made to Mr. Tayler their said Agent, for his Services:

Whereupon they came to the following Resolution, towit, Resolved that Mr. Taylor Agent to this Board be allowed, as a full Compensation for his Services, the Sum of five per Cent upon all Monies received and paid by him on Account of the Treaty including the like Allowance on the Albany Price of Merchandize furnished by him for the Use of the State; And the further Sum of two and an half per Cent on the Sum of sixteen hundred Dollars being the Annual Payments stipulated to be made to the Oneidas, Onondagoes and Cayugas in the present Year which were made by him.

On Saturday Afternoon at 6 oClock the Governor and Lieutenant Governor and Messrs. L'Hommedieu, and Varick embarked on Board of Captn. Samuel Lewis's Sloop for New York.

By His Excellency George Clinton
Esquire Governor of the State of New
York.

To Gerard Bancker Esquire Treasurer.

The Commissioners appointed by the Law Entitled "An Act for appointing Commis-"sioners to hold Treaties with the Indians "within this State," Passed the first of March last have deemed it necessary that the further Sum of five hundred Pounds be advanced to Mr. John Taylor their Agent for the Purposes of procuring Supplies & Necessaries for holding a Treaty with the Six Nations of Indians; These are therefore to require You to pay to the said John Taylor or Order the said Sum of five hundred Pounds out of any Monies You may have in the Treasury, any other Appropriations of the said Monies (not being appropriated to private Persons in Discharge of Contracts) notwithstanding; For which Monies the said John Taylor is to be accountable.

Given under my Hand at New York this twenty seventh Day of May 1788. –

Geo: Clinton

I shall now speak upon a point of great importance. The ridge, which divides the waters of Little river from the Tennessee, is the boundary fixed by the treaty. But the white people are already over it, and their numbers have increased since the treaty. Remove these back, or our people will not be quiet. We speak strongly on this point.

We came to Philadelphia with our eyes full of tears. But since we have seen General Washington, and heard him speak through you, our tears are wiped away, and we rejoice in the prospect of our future welfare, under the protection of Congress.

Governor Blount spoke very much to us, that a trading house should be established at Bear creek, below the Muscle Shoals, on the Tennessee. We could not consent to this. After we returned home we talked among ourselves on this matter, and it would be very disagreeable to our nation. But we have heard that this matter is still going on. We desire that the man you send with us should prevent this settlement at the Muscle Shoals.

I have now explained all I had to say, and hid nothing from you.

I now speak of the private affairs of our party, who are now here. You will see that, being upon the business of our nation, we could not go a hunting, and, therefore, our families will be unclad, unless you will do it, and we hope you will.

All which is humbly submitted.

H. KNOX, *Secretary of War.*

War Department, 17*th January*, 1792.

2d Congress.] No. 25. [1st Session.

SENECAS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE, JANUARY 27, 1792.

Mr. Butler, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred the speeches of the Seneca Chief, Cornplanter, of the 9th December, 1790; 10th January, 7th February, and 17th March, 1791; made the following report:

That Oliver Phelps, of whom Cornplanter makes mention, produced some affidavits, and other papers, relating to the purchase of lands, made by him of the Indians, which your committee examined, and are of opinion that the said affidavits, and other papers, should be filed in the Secretary's office; and that the committee be discharged from the further consideration of this subject.

The following are the papers referred to:

The speech of the Cornplanter, Half-Town, and the Great-Tree, Chiefs and Councillors of the Seneca nation, to the Creat Councillor of the Thirteen Fires.

Father:

The voice of the Seneca nation speaks to you, the great councillor, in whose heart the wise men of all the Thirteen Fires have placed their wisdom. It may be very small in your ears, and we therefore entreat you to hearken with attention: for we are about to speak of things which are to us very great. When your army entered the country of the Six Nations, we called you the Town Destroyer; and to this day, when that name is heard, our women look behind them and turn pale, and our children cling close to the necks of their mothers. Our councillors and warriors are men, and cannot be afraid; but their hearts are grieved with the fears of our women and children, and desire that it may be buried so deep as to be heard no more. When you gave us peace, we called you father, because you promised to secure us in the possession of our lands. Do this, and, so long as the lands shall remain, that beloved name will live in the heart of every Seneca.

Father: We mean to open our hearts before you, and we earnestly desire that you will let us clearly understand what you resolve to do. When our chiefs returned from the treaty at fort Stanwix, and laid before our council what had been done there, our nation was surprised to hear how great a country you had compelled them to give up to you, without your paying to us any thing for it. Every one said that your hearts were yet swelled with resentment against us for what had happened during the war, but that one day you would reconsider it with more kindness. We asked each other, What have we done to deserve such severe chastisement?

Father: When you kindled your thirteen fires separately, the wise men that assembled at them told us, that you were all brothers, the children of one great father, who regarded, also, the red people as his children. They called us brothers, and invited us to his protection; they told us that he resided beyond the great water, where the sun first rises; that he was a king whose power no people could resist, and that his goodness was bright as that sun. What they said went to our hearts; we accepted the invitation, and promised to obey him. What the Seneca nation promise, they faithfully perform; and when you refused obedience to that king, he commanded us to assist his beloved men in making you sober. In obeying him, we did no more than yourselves had led us to promise. The men who claimed this promise told us that you were children, and had no guns; that when they had shaken you, you would submit. We hearkened to them, and were deceived, until your army approached our towns. We were deceived; but your people, in teaching us to confide in that king, had helped to deceive us, and we now appeal to your heart—Is the blame all ours?

Father: When we saw that we were deceived, and heard the invitation which you gave us to draw near to the fire which you kindled, and talk with you concerning peace, we made haste toward it. You then told us that we were in your hand, and that, by closing it, you could crush us to nothing, and you demanded from us a great country, as the price of that peace which you had offered us; as if our want of strength had destroyed our rights. Our chiefs had felt your power, and were unable to contend against you, and they therefore gave up that country. What they agreed to, has bound our nation; but your anger against us must, by this time, be cooled; and, although our strength has not increased, nor your power become less, we ask you to consider calmly, Were the terms dictated to us by your commissioners reasonable and just?

Father: Your commissioners, when they drew the line which separated the land then given up to you from that which you agreed should remain to be ours, did most solemnly promise, that we should be secured in the peaceable possession of the lands which we inhabited east and north of that line. Does this promise bind you?

Hear now, we entreat you, what has since happened concerning that land. On the day in which we finished the treaty at fort Stanwix, commissioners from Pennsylvania told our chiefs that they had come there to purchase from us all the lands belonging to us, within the lines of their State, and they told us that their line would strike the river Susquehannah below Tioga branch. They then left us to consider of the bargain till the next day; on the next day we let them know that we were unwilling to sell all the lands within their State, and proposed to let them have a part of it, which we pointed out to them in their map. They told us that they must have the whole; that it was already ceded to them by the great king, at the time of making peace with you, and was ***their own;*** but they said that they would not take advantage of that, and were willing to pay us for it, after the manner of their ancestors. Our chiefs were unable to contend, at that time, and therefore they sold the lands up to the line, which was then shewn to them as the line of that State. What the commissioners had said about the land having been ceded to them at the peace, our chiefs considered as intended only to lessen the price, and they passed it by with very little notice; but, since that time, we have heard so much from others about the right to our lands, which the king gave when you made peace with him, that it is our earnest desire that you will tell us what it means.

Father: Our nation empowered John Livingston to let out part of our lands on rent, to be paid to us. He told us, that he was sent by Congress, to do this for us, and we fear he has deceived us in the writing he obtained from us: for, since the time of our giving that power, a man of the name of Phelps has come among us, and claimed our whole country northward of the line of Pennsylvania, under purchase from that Livingston, to whom, he said, he had paid twenty thousand dollars for it. He said, also, that he had bought, likewise, from the council of the Thirteen Fires, and paid them twenty thousand dollars more for the same. And he said, also, that it did not belong to us, for that the great king had ceded the whole of it, when you made peace with him. Thus he claimed the whole country north of Pennsylvania, and west of the lands belonging to the Cayugas. He demanded it; he insisted on his demand, and declared that he would have it *all*. It was impossible for us to grant him this, and we immediately refused it. After some days, he proposed to run a line, at a small distance eastward of our western boundary, which we also refused to agree to. He then threatened us with immediate war, if we did not comply.

Upon this threat, our chiefs held a council, and they agreed that no event of war could be worse than to be driven, with their wives and children, from the only country which we had any right to, and, therefore, weak as our nation was, they determined to take the chance of war, rather than submit to such unjust demands, which seemed to have no bounds. Street, the great trader at Niagara, was then with us, having come at the request of Phelps, and as he always professed to be our great friend, we consulted him on this subject. He also told us, that our lands had been ceded by the king, and that we *must* give them up.

Astonished at what we heard from every quarter, with hearts aching with compassion for our women and children, we were thus compelled to give up all our country north of the line of Pennsylvania and east of the Genesee river, up to the fork, and east of a south line drawn from that fork to the Pennsylvania line. For this land, Phelps agreed to pay us ten thousand dollars in hand, and one thousand dollars a year for ever. He paid us two thousand and five hundred dollars in hand, part of the ten thousand, and he sent for us to come last spring, to receive our money; but instead of paying us the remainder of the ten thousand dollars, and the one thousand dollars due for the first year, he offered us no more than five hundred dollars, and insisted that he had agreed with us for that sum, to be paid yearly. We debated with him for six days, during all which time he persisted in refusing to pay us our just demand, and he insisted that we should receive the five hundred dollars; and Street, from Niagara, also insisted on our receiving the money, as it was offered to us. The last reason he assigned for continuing to refuse paying us, was, *that the king had ceded the lands to the Thirteen Fires*, and that he had bought them from you, and *paid you for them.*

We could bear this confusion no longer, and determined to press through every difficulty, and lift up our voice that you might hear us, and to claim that security in the possession of our lands, which your commissioners so solemnly promised us. And we now entreat you to inquire into our complaints and redress our wrongs.

Father: Our writings were lodged in the hands of Street, of Niagara, as we supposed him to be our friend; but when we saw Phelps consulting with Street, on every occasion, we doubted of his honesty towards us, and we have since heard, that he was to receive for his endeavors to deceive us, a piece of land ten miles in width, west of the Genesee river, and near forty miles in length, extending to lake Ontario; and the lines of this tract have been run accordingly, although no part of it is within the bounds which limit his purchase. No doubt he meant to deceive us.

Father: You have said that we are in your hand, and that, by closing it, you could crush us to nothing. Are you determined to crush us? If you are, tell us so, that those of our nation who have become your children, and have determined to die so, may know what to do. In this case, one chief has said he would ask you to put him out of pain. Another, who will not think of dying by the hand of his father or of his brother, has said he will retire to the Chateaugay, eat of the fatal root, and sleep with his fathers in peace.

Before you determine on a measure so unjust, look up to God, who made *us* as well as *you*. We hope he will not permit you to destroy the whole of our nation.

Father: Hear our case; many nations inhabited this country; but they had no wisdom, and, therefore, they warred together. The Six Nations were powerful, and compelled them to peace; the lands, for a great extent, were given up to them; but the nations which were not destroyed, all continued on those lands, and claimed the protection of the Six Nations, as the brothers of their fathers. They were men, and when at peace, they had a right to live upon the earth. The French came among us, and built Niagara; they became our fathers, and took care of us. Sir William Johnston came and took that fort from the French; he became our father, and promised to take care of us, and did so, until you were too strong for his king. To him we gave four miles round Niagara, as a place of trade. We have already said, how we came to join against you; we saw that we were wrong; we wished for peace; you demanded a great country to be given up to you; it was surrendered to you, as the price of peace, and we ought to have peace and possession of the little land which you then left us.

Father: When that great country was given up, there were but few chiefs present, and they were compelled to give it up, and it is not the Six Nations only that reproach those chiefs with having given up that country. The Chippewas, and all the nations who lived on those lands westward, call to us, and ask us, Brothers of our fathers, where is the place which you have reserved for us to lie down upon?

Father: You have compelled us to do that which has made us ashamed. We have nothing to answer to the children of the brothers of our fathers. When, last spring, they called upon us to go to war, to secure them a bed to lie upon, the Senecas entreated them to be quiet, until we had spoken to you. But, on our way down, we heard that your army had gone toward the country which those nations inhabit, and if they meet together, the best blood on both sides will stain the ground.

Father: We will not conceal from you, that the great God, and not men, has preserved the Cornplanter from the hands of his own nation. For they ask, continually, Where is the land which our children, and their children after them, are to lie down upon? You told us, say they, that the line drawn from Pennsylvania to lake Ontario, would mark it forever on the east, and the line running from Beaver creek to Pennsylvania, would mark it on the west, and we see that it is not so: for, first one, and then another, come, and take it away, by order of that people which you tell us promised to secure it to us. He is silent, for he has nothing to answer.

When the sun goes down, he opens his heart before God, and earlier than that sun appears again upon the hills, he gives thanks for his protection during the night: for he feels that, among men, become desperate by their danger, it is God only that can preserve him. He loves peace, and all that he had in store, he has given to those who have been robbed by your people, lest they should plunder the innocent to repay themselves. The whole season which others have employed in providing for their families, he has spent in his endeavors to preserve peace; and, at this moment, his wife and children are lying on the ground, and in want of food; his heart is in pain for them, but he perceives that the great God will try his firmness, in doing what is right.

Father: The game which the Great Spirit sent into our country for us to eat, is going from among us. We thought he intended that we should till the ground with the plough, as the white people do, and we talked to one another about it. But before we speak to you concerning this, we must know from you whether you mean to leave us and our children any land to till. Speak plainly to us concerning this great business.

All the lands we have been speaking of belonged to the Six Nations; no part of it ever belonged to the King of England, and he could not give it to you. The land we live on, our fathers received from God, and they transmitted it to us, for our children, and we cannot part with it.

Father: We told you that we would open our hearts to you. Hear us once more.

At fort Stanwix, we agreed to deliver up those of our people who should do you any wrong, that you might try them, and punish them according to your law. We delivered up two men accordingly, but instead of trying them according to your law, the lowest of your people took them from your magistrate, and put them immediately to death. It is just to punish murder with death; but the Senecas will not deliver up their people to men who disregard the treaties of their own nation.

FATHER: Innocent men of our nation are killed one after another, and of our best families; but none of your people who have committed the murder have been punished. We recollect that you did not promise to punish those who killed our people, and we now ask, Was it intended that your people should kill the Senecas, and not only remain unpunished by you, but be protected by you against the revenge of the next of kin?

FATHER: These are to us very great things. We know that you are very strong, and we have heard that you are wise, and we wait to hear your answer to what we have said, that we may know that you are just.

Signed at Philadelphia, the first day of December, 1790.

CORNPLANTER, his x mark.
HALF-TOWN, his x mark.
GREAT-TREE, his x mark.

Present at signing, JOSEPH NICHOLSON, *Interpreter.*
T. MATLACK.

The speech of the Cornplanter, Half-Town, and the Great-Tree, Chiefs of the Seneca nation, to the President of the United States of America.

FATHER:

Your speech, written on the great paper, is to us like the first light of the morning to a sick man, whose pulse beats too strongly in his temples, and prevents him from sleep. He sees it, and rejoices, but he is not cured.

You say that you have spoken plainly on the great point. That you will protect us in the lands secured to us at fort Stanwix, and that we have the right to *sell* or to *refuse* to sell it. This is very good. But our nation complain that you compelled us at that treaty to give up too much of our lands. We confess that our nation is bound by what was there done; and, acknowledging your power, we have now appealed to yourselves against that treaty, as made while you were too angry at us, and, therefore, unreasonable and unjust. To this you have given us no answer.

FATHER: That treaty was not made with a single State, it was with the thirteen States. We never would have given all that land to one State. We know it was before you had the great authority, and as you have more wisdom than the commissioners, who forced us into that treaty, we expect that you have also more regard to justice, and will now, at our request, reconsider that treaty, and restore to us a part of that land.

FATHER: The land which lies between the line running south from lake Erie to the boundary of Pennsylvania, as mentioned at the treaty at fort Stanwix, and the eastern boundary of the land which you sold, and the Senecas confirmed to Pennsylvania, is the land on which Half-Town and all his people live, with other chiefs, who always have been, and still are, dissatisfied with the treaty at fort Stanwix. They grew out of this land, and their fathers' fathers grew out of it, and they cannot be persuaded to part with it. We therefore entreat you to restore to us this little piece.

FATHER: Look at the land which we gave to you at that treaty, and then turn your eyes upon what we now ask you to restore to us, and you will see that what we now ask you to return is a *very little piece.* By giving it back again, you will satisfy the whole of our nation. The chiefs who signed that treaty will be in safety, and peace between your children and our children will continue so long as your land shall join to ours. Every man of our nation will then turn his eyes away from all the other lands which we then gave up to you, and forget that our fathers ever said that they belonged to them.

FATHER: We see that you ought to have the path at the carrying place from lake Erie to Niagara, as it was marked down at fort Stanwix, and we are all willing it should remain to be yours. And if you desire to reserve a passage through the Conewango, and through the Chataugue lake and land, for a path from that lake to lake Erie, take it where you best like. Our nation will rejoice to see it an open path for you and your children while the land and water remain. But let us also pass along the same way, and continue to take the fish of those waters in common with you.

FATHER: You say that you will appoint an agent to take care of us. Let him come and take care of our trade; but we desire he may not have any thing to do with our lands: for the agents which have come amongst us, and pretended to take care of us, have always deceived us whenever we sold lands; both when the King of England and when the States have bargained with us. They have by this means occasioned many wars, and we are therefore unwilling to trust them again.

FATHER: When we return home, we will call a great council, and consider well how lands may be hereafter sold by our nation. And when we have agreed upon it, we will send you notice of it. But we desire that you will not depend on your agent for information concerning land: for, after the abuses which we have suffered by such men, we will not trust them with any thing which relates to land.

FATHER: We will not hear lies concerning you, and we desire that you will not hear lies concerning us, and then we shall certainly live at peace with you.

FATHER: There are men who go from town to town and beget children, and leave them to perish, or, except better men take care of them, to grow up without instruction. Our nation has long looked round for a father, but they found none that would own them for children, until you now tell us that your courts are open to us as to your own people. The joy which we feel at this great news, so mixes with the sorrows that are passed, that we cannot express our gladness, nor conceal the remembrance of our afflictions. We will speak of them at another time.

FATHER: We are ashamed that we have listened to the lies of Livingston, or been influenced by threats of war by Phelps, and would hide that whole transaction from the world, and from ourselves, by quietly receiving what Phelps promised to give us for the lands they cheated us of. But as Phelps will not pay us even according to that fraudulent bargain, we will lay the whole proceedings before your court. When the evidence which we can produce is heard, we think it will appear that the whole bargain was founded on lies, which he placed one upon another; that the goods which he charges to us as part payment were plundered from us; that, if Phelps was not directly concerned in the theft, he knew of it at the time, and concealed it from us; and that the persons we confided in were bribed by him to deceive us in the bargain. And if these facts appear, that your court will not say that such bargains are just, but will set the whole aside.

FATHER: We apprehend that our evidence might be called for, as Phelps was here, and knew what we have said concerning him; and as Ebenezer Allen knew something of the matter, we desired him to continue here. Nicholson, the interpreter, is very sick, and we request that Allen may remain a few days longer, as he speaks our language.

FATHER: The blood which was spilled near Pine creek is covered, and we shall never look where it lies. We know that Pennsylvania will satisfy us for that which we spoke of to them before we spoke to you. The chain of friendship will now, we hope, be made strong as you desire it to be. We will hold it fast; and our end of it shall never rust in our hands.

FATHER: We told you what advice we gave to the people you are now at war with, and we now tell you that they have promised to come again to our towns next spring. We shall not wait for their coming, but will set out very early, and shew to them what you have done for us, which must convince them that you will do for them every thing which they ought to ask. We think they will hear and follow our advice.

Father: You give us leave to speak our minds concerning the tilling of the ground. We ask you to teach us to plough and to grind corn; to assist us in building saw mills, and supply us with broad axes, saws, augers, and other tools, so as that we may make our houses more comfortable and more durable; that you will send smiths among us, and, above all, that you will teach our children to read and write, and our women to spin and to weave. The manner of your doing these things for us we leave to you, who understand them; but we assure you that we will follow your advice as far as we are able.

CORNPLANTER, his x mark.
HALF-TOWN, his x mark.
GREAT-TREE, his x mark.

Present at signing, Joseph Nicholson, *Interpreter.*
T. Matlack.
John Dechart, his x mark.
Jem Hudson, his x mark.

Philadelphia, 10th January, 1791.

The speech of Cornplanter, Half-Town, and the Big-Tree, Seneca Chiefs, to the Great Councillor of the Thirteen Fires.

Father:

No Seneca ever goes from the fire of his friend, until he has said to him, "I am going." We therefore tell you, that we are now setting out for our own country.

Father: We thank you, from our hearts, that we now know there is a country we may call our own, and on which we may lie down in peace. We see that there will be peace between your children and our children; and our hearts are very glad. We will persuade the Wyandots, and other Western nations, to open their eyes, and look toward the bed which you have made for us, and to ask of you a bed for themselves, and their children, that will not slide from under them.

We thank you for your presents to us, and rely on your promise to instruct us in raising corn, as the white people do; the sooner you do this, the better for us. And we thank you for the care you have taken to prevent bad men coming to trade among us: if any come without your license, we will turn them back; and we hope our nation will determine to spill all the rum which shall, hereafter, be brought to our towns.

Father: We are glad to hear that you determine to appoint an agent that will do us justice, in taking care that bad men do not come to trade amongst us; but we earnestly intreat you that you will let us have an interpreter in whom we can confide, to reside at Pittsburg. To that place our people, and other nations, will long continue to resort; there we must send what news we hear, when we go among the Western nations, which, we are determined, shall be early in the spring. We know Joseph Nicholson, and he speaks our language so that we clearly understand what you say to us, and we rely on what he says. If we were able to pay him for his services, we would do it; but, when we meant to pay him, by giving him land, it has not been confirmed to him; and he will not serve us any longer unless you will pay him. Let him stand between us, we intreat you.

Father: You have not asked any security for peace on our part, but we have agreed to send nine Seneca boys, to be under your care for education. Tell us at what time you will receive them, and they shall be sent at the time you shall appoint. This will assure you that we are, indeed, at peace with you, and determined to continue so. If you can teach them to become wise and good men, we will take care that our nation shall be willing to receive instruction from them.

CORNPLANTER, his x mark.
HALF-TOWN, his x mark.
BIG-TREE, his x mark.

Signed at Philadelphia, 7th February, 1791, in presence of
Joseph Nicholson, *Interpreter,*
Thomas Procter,
T. Matlack.

Pittsburg, *March* 17, 1791.

Sir:

When we raised from the great council of the Thirteen Fires, we mentioned that we meant to have a council with the chiefs of the bad, angry Indians.

Through the whole Quaker State, as we came up the road, we were treated well, and they took good care of us until we came here. One misfortune happened only, that one of our wagons is not yet arrived here, the one we first engaged, with the goods you presented to us.

Father: Your promise to me was, that you would keep all your people quiet; but, since I came here, I find that some of my people have been killed—the good honest people who were here trading.

Father: We hope you will not suffer all the good people to be killed; but your people are killing them as fast as they can. Three men and one woman have been killed at Big Beaver creek, and they were good people, and some of the white men will testify the truth of this. When I heard the news, I found one boy had made his escape, and got to the trader's house, who saved his life; I now want to see him.

Father: We have been informed that twenty-seven men came from another State, and murdered these men in the Quaker State, and took away nine horses, and all the goods they had purchased from the trader. Our father, and ruler over all mankind, now speak and tell me, did you order these men to be killed?

Father: Our words are pledged to you that we would endeavor to make peace with all warrior nations. If we cannot do it, do not blame us: you struck the innocent men first. We hope you will not blame us, as your people have first broke good rules; but, as for our people, they are as friendly and as firm as ever.

Father: We must now acquaint you with the men's names who did this murder at Beaver creek: Samuel Brady, formerly a captain in your army, and under your command, also a Balden, were persons concerned in this murder.

Father: I can inform you little more, therefore will conclude with asking you how I should have come to the knowledge of this, or how I could have informed you, had it not been for our good friend Joseph Nicholson? I therefore beg you may grant him an appointment as interpreter: for we cannot see how we will do without him. I know of no other man that speaks your language and ours so well as him.

CORNPLANTER, his + mark,
NEW-ARROW, his + mark,
HALF-TOWN, his + mark,
BIG-TREE, his + mark.

P. S. The boy who made his escape at Beaver creek has arrived at this place, and I have taken him under my protection. Father, your despatches for Detroit have been unavoidably detained, heretofore; but to-morrow Big-Tree and one other shall set off with them, and will also take the boy mentioned here, and deliver him to his relations. We part to-day at this place: Big-Tree is going amongst the cross Indians, to see if they will make peace, and I go to my own people, to call them to council.

CORNPLANTER.

To all People to whom these presents shall come, greeting: Know ye, that we, the sachems, chiefs, and warriors, of the Five Nations of Indians, for, and in consideration of, the sum of two thousand one hundred pounds, lawful money of the State of New York, paid, and received by us, to our full satisfaction, of Oliver Phelps, of Granville, in the county of Hampshire, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Esquire, and Nathaniel Gorham, of Charlestown, in the county of Middlesex, in the Commonwealth aforesaid, and of which we do hereby release and discharge them, the said Oliver and Nathaniel; and particularly, in consideration of the covenant and engagement made and executed by the said Oliver Phelps, in behalf of the said Nathaniel and himself, by deed of even date with these presents, have given, granted, ceded, bargained, sold, aliened, conveyed, and confirmed, and by these presents do hereby give, grant, cede, bargain, sell, alien, convey, and confirm, unto them, the said Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham, and to their heirs and assigns, forever, all that territory or country of land lying within the State of New York, contained within, and being parcel of, the lands and territory, the right of pre-emption of the soil whereof, from the native Indians, was ceded by the State of New York aforesaid, to the Commonwealth aforesaid, by deed of cession, executed at Hartford, by commissioners for that purpose, on the sixteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-six, within the following limits and bounds, that is to say: Beginning in the north boundary line of the State of Pennsylvania, in the parallel of forty-two degrees north latitude, at a point distant eighty two miles west from the northeast corner of Pennsylvania, on Delaware river, as the said boundary line hath been run and marked by the commissioners appointed by the States of New York and Pennsylvania, respectively; and from said point or place of beginning, running west upon said line to a meridian which will pass through that corner or point of land made by the confluence of the Shanahasgwaikoreehi (so called) with the waters of the Genesee river; thence, running north along the said meridian to the corner or point last mentioned; thence, northwardly along the waters of the said Genesee river, to a point two miles north of Shanawageras village, so ,called; thence, running in a direction due west, twelve miles; thence, running a direction northwardly, so as to be twelve miles distant from the most westward bends of said Genesee river, to the shore of the Ontario lake; thence, eastwardly along the shores of said lake, to a meridian which will pass through the first point or place of beginning abovementioned; thence, south along said meridian to the first point or place of beginning, aforesaid; together with all and singular the woods, houses, streams, rivers, ponds, lakes, upon, within, and in any wise appertaining to, said territory: to have and to hold the above granted and bargained premises, together with all the appurtenances and privileges thereunto belonging, or in anywise appertaining, to them the said Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham, and to their heirs and assigns forever. And we, the underwritten sachems, chiefs, and warriors, do hereby covenant and engage, to and with the said Oliver Phelps, Nathaniel Gorham, and their heirs, executors, and administrators, that we will warrant and defend the above granted and bargained premises to them, said Oliver, Nathaniel, and their heirs and assigns, against all claims whatsoever.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals, this eighth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight.

MOHAWKS.

Hendrink Takarihoga, and a seal and a mark.
Jos. Bran. and Thayendanegea, and a seal and a mark.
Thomas Shasennowane, and a seal and a mark.

ONEIDAS.

Kennawagenton, and a seal and a mark.
Shoratowane, and a seal and a mark.
Oghnaongoghton, and a seal and a mark.

ONONDAGOES.

Yonghwenjowanin, and a seal and a mark.
Sharonejowanen, and a seal and a mark.
Olkwenlageghte, and a seal and a mark.
Kagontenayen, and a seal and a mark.
Araghkevente, and a seal and a mark.
Onereraghhere, and a seal and a mark.
Kashighstogh, and a seal and a mark.
Kayendakhengh, and a seal and a mark.

CAYOGAS.

Tekainyon, and a seal and a mark.
Oghnickwenton, and a seal and a mark.
Teyothounghgongh, and a seal and a mark.
Thoheres, and a seal and a mark.
Karonghgaetea, and a seal and a mark.
Ojageghte, and a seal and a mark.
Otstenragongh, and a seal and a mark.
Tekaraghgogh, and a seal and a mark.
Tewaghlaghgote, and a seal and a mark.
Oghshighanesene, and a seal and a mark.

THE FEMALE GOVERNESSES, OR CHIEF WOMEN.

Ononghsonlyon, and a seal and a mark.
Karaghgosene, and a seal and a mark.
Kawaghlyenenghtha, and a seal and a mark.
Kannonisen, and a seal and a mark.
Gonwaghsennawi, and a seal and a mark.
Kaghhearenghsha, and a seal and a mark.
Karoghlonghs, and a seal and a mark.

CAYOGAS.

Aristates, and a seal and a mark.
Shagoyethwatha, and a seal and a mark.
Gonghsanigonte, and a seal and a mark.
Kanintagonra, and a seal and a mark.
Karenhoten, and a seal and a mark.
Alayaseronn, and a seal and a mark.
Tehaweanokee, and a seal and a mark.
Tetsinontawerhogh, and a seal and a mark.
Teghhaninharingtonghs, and a seal and a mark.
Tewataseriyage, and a seal and a mark.
Shoyonwesee, and a seal and a mark.
Tehaghsharanogeaghs, and a seal and a mark.

SENECAS.

Oghnenrayewaghs, and a seal and a mark.
Teyorenhagwente, and a seal and a mark.
Karontowanengh, and a seal and a mark.
Sholtswaas, and a seal and a mark.
Skenlyoghwadigh, and a seal and a mark.
Tekaghsakatsle, and a seal and a mark.
Shonoghsowane, and a seal and a mark.
Shegwarentonghkwe, and a seal and a mark.
Kanaase, and a seal and a mark.
Tewatogharanegea, and a seal and a mark.
Jonondaweaghtaghsia, and a seal and a mark.
Shagoyeghwatha, and a seal and a mark.
Kayentwaghgeh, and a seal and a mark.
Shorehowane, and a seal and a mark.
Karonghyagera, and a seal and a mark.
Tekahonwaghshea, and a seal and a mark.
Arajongwaghs, and a seal and a mark.
Tsiskekeh, and a seal and a mark.
Shoghsharowane, and a seal and a mark.
Ratsirageron, and a seal and a mark.
Osawetorough, and a seal and a mark.
Olonghwenjagehte, and a seal and a mark.
Teghonegwengksohane, and a seal and a mark.

Signed, sealed, and delivered, in the presence of
John Butler, *Deputy Agent.*
Sam. Kirkland, *Superintendent in behalf of Massachusetts.*
James Dean, *Interpreter,*
Elisha Lee,
Jos. Brandt,
Benj. Barton,
David Smith,
Ezl. Scott.

Pursuant to a resolution of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, passed March the 30th, 1788, I have attended a full and general treaty of the Five Nations of Indians, at the chief village in their territory, on Buffalo creek, alias *Teyoheghscolea*, when the foregoing instrument or deed of conveyance, made to the Honorable Nathaniel Gorham, and Oliver Phelps, Esqrs. of a certain part of the lands belonging to the said Five Nations, the description and boundaries thereof being particularly specified in the same, was duly executed, signed, sealed, and delivered, in my presence, by the sachems, chiefs, and warriors, of the above mentioned Five Nations, being fairly and properly understood and transacted by all the parties of Indians concerned, and declared to be done to their universal satisfaction and content.

And I do therefore certify and approve of the same.

SAMUEL KIRKLAND,
Missionary, superintendent in behalf of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS:

I, Henry Alline, notary and tabellion public, by lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, dwelling and practising in Boston, within said Commonwealth, do hereby certify all whom it may concern, that the foregoing instrument or deed of conveyance, and caption thereon, are true copies from the originals, which were carefully examined and compared by me the said notary. Thus done at Boston aforesaid, this twentieth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed my notarial seal.

[L. S.] HENRY ALLINE, *Notary Public*, 1790.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS:

By his Excellency JOHN HANCOCK, *Esquire, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.*

I do hereby certify, that Henry Alline is a notary public, within and for the county of Suffolk, in the said Commonwealth, duly constituted and sworn, and that, to his acts and attestations, as on this paper, full faith and credit is; and ought to be given, both in and out of court.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the public seal of the Commonwealth aforesaid to be hereto affixed, this twentieth day of October, Anno Domini 1790, and in the fifteenth year of the independence of the United States of America.

[L. S.] JOHN HANCOCK.

By his Excellency's command:
JOHN AVERY, Jun. *Secretary.*

A quit claim from the Four Nations of Indians acknowledging payment.

We, the sachems, chiefs, and warriors, of the Mohawk, Onondago, Cuyahuga, and Tuscarora nations, for ourselves, and in behalf of the four nations aforesaid, have heard read and explained, in public council at this place, the papers passed between Oliver Phelps, Esq. and the Five Nations of Indians, in full and public council, at our great council fire, at Buffalo creek, in July, 1788; and find said papers conformable to the agreement then and there made, between said Phelps and the said Five Nations, and do hereby ratify and confirm said agreement, as being fairly and properly done, agreeable to the ancient customs of our forefathers; and having given up to the Seneca nation, our several proportions of the payment now due and offered to the said Five Nations by said Phelps, in a just and proper manner, in a full council of the Five Nations, viz: two thousand five hundred dollars in cash, and two thousand five hundred dollars value in goods, we hereby quit all claims, right, title, or demand, whatsoever, to all that certain tract, parcel, land, and territory, purchased from the Five Nations, by said Phelps, agreeable to the deeds given him, the said Phelps, by the Five Nations aforesaid, at Buffalo creek; and to all moneys, goods, or other payments whatsoever, due by said Phelps for said lands, except always reserving our just share and proportion of five hundred dollars, the annual rent to be paid on said lands forever.

Given under our hands and seals, at Canadqua, this 4th day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine.

Sharonyewanen, + [L. S.]
Kagondenayen, + [L. S.]
Tchodageranden, + [L. S.]
Ojageghte, + [L. S.]
Karonyageten, + [L. S.]
Skagoyeghwatha, + [L. S]
Tewaghtagote, + [L. S.]
Aghshigwaresere, + [L. S.]
Tekaraghke, + [L. S.]
Otstenragongh, + [L. S.]
Karonghyontye, + [L. S.]
Thayendanegea, + [L. S.]

In presence of
SAMUEL STREET,
LEMUEL WILMET.

Newton Point, *in the State of New York, July 7th*, 1791.

At the request of Oliver Phelps, Esq. I questioned the Onondaga chief, Sharonyowanen, and the Cayuga chief, Ojagegte, (usually called the Fish Carrier) relative to the contents of the foregoing written paper, to which their names are subscribed. They said they did not remember what were the papers therein mentioned to have been read and explained to them; but they well remember the bargain made between Mr. Phelps and the Five Nations, for the land he purchased of them at the treaty at Buffalo Creek, was this: that Mr. Phelps was to pay five thousand dollars for the purchase, and five hundred dollars every year forever. That this is well known to the other chiefs of their two nations, and that they never heard one of them say any thing to the contrary. Then, when at Konnaudaugua about two years ago, they, with other chiefs of their nation, and of the Mohawks and Tuscaroras, signed a paper to confirm the bargain which had been made with Mr. Phelps, at Buffalo Creek.

Joseph Smith and Jasper Parrish, my interpreters, inform me, that the Onondaga chief and the Fish Carrier, above named, are the head chiefs of their two nations.

TIMOTHY PICKERING,
Commissioner in behalf of the United States, for holding a treaty with the Six Nations.

Timothy Pickering's certificate.

I certify that Oliver Phelps, Esq. has shewn me a number of depositions of gentlemen of reputation, who were present at the treaty held by him at Buffalo creek, with the Six Nations of Indians, in the year 1788, when he purchased of them a tract of land, since called the purchase of Phelps and Gorham; and from their testimony, it appears that the bargain made with the Indians was for five thousand dollars purchase money, and five hundred dollars annual rent; that the papers exhibiting the bargain were openly interpreted by Mr. Kirkland, Mr. Dean, Colonel Butler, and Captain Brandt; and that the Indians then appeared entirely satisfied.

I further certify, that, at the request of Mr. Phelps, I examined the Fish Carrier and Sharonyowanen, (the two head sachems of the Cayuga and Onondaga nations, now attending the treaty, held by me, with the Six Nations at this place) relative to the same bargain; and they declared that it was as above stated; that the other chiefs of their two nations knew it; and that they never heard one of them say any thing to the contrary.

I further certify, that yesterday the principal sachems and chiefs of the Seneca nation came to my quarters, and declared that they were entirely satisfied in respect to the bargain they had made with Mr. Phelps for their lands; and that all they now asked of Mr. Phelps was, that he would perform his engagements with them, as the writings now stand.

Upon the whole, though from the complaints made last fall by the Seneca chiefs at Tioga, and by the Cornplanter last winter at Philadelphia, there appeared some room for believing that the bargain was for ten thousand dollars purchase money, yet I am now entirely convinced that they were under a mistake; and that the writings shewing that the purchase money was five thousand dollars, and the annual rent five hundred dollars, are exactly agreeable to the bargain made with them in their full council.

TIMOTHY PICKERING.

Newtown, in the State of New York, July 16th, 1791.

Philadelphia, *Wednesday evening, January 18th*, 1792.

Mr. Phelps asks me if I remember some conversation which I had with Big Log (otherwise called Great Tree) last July, at the treaty held by me with the Five Nations of Indians at Newtown, relative to the Cornplanter's complaints made last winter to the President, respecting his purchase of Seneca lands? I do. I repeated the substance of it to-day to Mr. Sherman and Mr. Wingate, upon their saying that the Cornplanter's speech had been read in the Senate, and Mr. Wingate's noticing that part of it which referred to Mr. Phelps.

I asked Big Log if he was present with the Cornplanter when he spoke to the President? He answered that he was. I asked him if the Cornplanter, in his speech, said that Mr. Phelps had threatened his nation with immediate war, if they did not let him have their lands? Big Log, with apparent surprise in his countenance, answered, No! but that John Livingston had threatened them.

TIMOTHY PICKERING.

The Cornplanter, in his speech to the President, says the *annual rent* which Mr. Phelps agreed to pay the Senecas, was *one thousand dollars*. The Seneca chiefs, at the treaty which I held with them in the fall of 1790, at Tioga, complained of their being wronged by Mr. Phelps, and said that he agreed to pay them *ten thousand dollars purchase money*, but that the *annual rent* was to be but *five hundred dollars*. So the matter rests on my mind. Their speeches (which I reported to the President a year ago) will ascertain the facts.

TIMOTHY PICKERING.

The deposition of James Dean.

The deposition of James Dean, of lawful age, testifieth and saith, that this deponent attended a treaty which was held by Oliver Phelps, Esq. with the Indian nations at Buffalo creek; that this deponent officiated at the said treaty as an interpreter; that the Senecas, as far as this deponent had an opportunity to discover their sentiments, did unanimously agree to dispose of part of their country to the above mentioned Oliver Phelps, Esq.; that this deponent, although he does not perfectly recollect the particulars of the contract made between the said Phelps and Senecas, yet conceives that the said Phelps engaged to pay to the said Senecas the sum of five thousand dollars the first year after the date of the said contract, and five hundred dollars per year forever; that, as far as this deponent was concerned in negotiating said contract, he conceives that every matter and thing respecting the same was fully and clearly explained to the said Senecas; and that the writings respecting the said contract were deposited in the hands of Colonel John Butler. And further this deponent saith not.

JAMES DEAN.

Whitestown, November 25th, 1790.

Montgomery, *November 25th*, 1790.

Personally appeared James Dean, signer to the foregoing deposition, and after being duly examined, and cautioned to testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, made solemn oath that the foregoing deposition, by him subscribed, was the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

Before me, EPHRAIM BLACKMER, *Justice of the Peace.*

Judge Hollenback's deposition.

Matthias Hollenback, Esq. of Wilkesbrough, in the county of Luzerne, and State of Pennsylvania, of lawful age, testifies and says, that, in July, in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight, he was present at a treaty held by Oliver Phelps, Esq. with the Six Nations of Indians, at Buffalo creek; that he, with a number of gentlemen, attended every public council held during said treaty; that, after some time was spent in determining the quantity of lands to be sold, it was agreed that the said Oliver Phelps, Esq. should pay the Indians (for their lands) the sum of five thousand dollars, and the sum of five hundred dollars yearly, as a receipt; that the writings were made according to said contract, and were read and explained in public councils by Colonel Butler, Captain Brandt, Messrs. Dean, and Kirkland; and that the Indians appeared perfectly satisfied with the contract as explained to them.

MATTHIAS HOLLENBACK.

TIOGA COUNTY, *ss.*

Personally came before me, Brinton Paine, Esq., M. Hollenback, Esq., signer to the above deposition, and made solemn oath to the truth of the same on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God. Taken and sworn before me, this 14th day of July, 1791.

BRINTON PAINE.

N. B. The question being put to the above deponent, whether he heard the said Oliver Phelps, Esq. use any threatening words to the Indians, whereby he has any reason to think the Indians sold their land through fear to him? "I did not."

MATHIAS HOLLENBACK.

Question asked by me. BRINTON PAINE.

Elisha Lee, of Sheffield, in the county of Berkshire, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Esquire, of lawful age, testifieth and saith: That he accompanied the Hon. Oliver Phelps, Esq. to a treaty holden with the chiefs and warriors of the Six Nations, at Buffalo Creek, in July, 1788—the object of the treaty being the purchase of lands within the Massachusetts pre-emption district. The Indians were very generally there. Various propositions were made by Mr. Phelps, in their public council, relative to the quantity of land which he inclined to purchase. To fix upon the quantity, limits, and boundaries, of such lands as they would sell, and which Mr. Phelps was inclined to purchase, was a work of some difficulty, and was the business of the council for a number of days successively. The business was at length amicably effected, at a council in which Captain O'Beel, and a select number of the Indian chiefs, were present on the part of the Indians, and in the presence of the Rev. Samuel Kirkland, the superintendent appointed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Mr. Dean, Colonel Butler, and Captain Brandt, who understood both the English and Indian languages, and of Ezekiel Gilbert, Esq. Dr. Benton, and myself. The limits of the intended purchase being agreed, and a request from Captain O'Beel, to know what compensation Mr. Phelps would make for it, being made, it was agreed by Mr. Phelps and the said Indians, to refer the consideration of the compensation which ought to be made them to Col. Butler, Mr. Kirkland, and Capt. Brandt. Agreeably to their opinion thereupon, Mr. Phelps offered and proposed to pay them, in satisfaction for the lands agreed to be conveyed, the sum of five thousand dollars, to be paid in some convenient time after the treaty, and an annuity of five hundred dollars forever afterwards. This proposal was interpreted to them by Mr. Kirkland, Mr. Dean, or both of them; and, after a due time given them for deliberation, was accepted by them. After the business was so far settled, Mr. Phelps, agreeably to a request of the Indians, further agreed to make them a present of some cattle and rum. On the day subsequent to their agreeing to the proposals of Mr. Phelps, relative to the compensation, the necessary writings and instruments to carry into execution the aforesaid agreements of the parties were draughted by the deponent, at the request of Mr. Phelps; and, agreeably to notice given to the said Indians by him. These writings were truly and honestly made for that purpose, and were executed by the respective parties in a public meeting of the Six Nations, at which were present the gentlemen beforementioned, as well as a Mr. Johnson, and several British officers from Niagara. At the time of their being executed, they were publicly read and interpreted to the Indians, by C. Butler, Mr. Kirkland, Captain Brandt, and Mr. Dean. And the deponent further saith, that there neither was nor could be any fraud, deceit, or unfair management, in the whole of this business; the bonds and obligations given to them by Mr. Phelps being fully and completely written, and no blanks left therein, and seen to be in this situation by the deponent, immediately previous to their execution by Mr. Phelps.

ELISHA LEE.

Taken and sworn before me, this 4th day of July, 1791.

BRINTON PAINE.
One of the Judges of the county of Tioga, in the State of New York.

During Mr. Phelps's negotiation with the Indians for the purchase of the lands referred to in the foregoing deposition, did he use any threats to intimidate the Indians, to induce them to agree to a sale of the lands, and on the terms proposed by Mr. Phelps? Particularly, did he threaten them with immediate war if they did not comply?

Answer. Mr. Phelps did not use any threats of any kind to intimidate the Indians, to my knowledge; and I was present at all the public councils that were holden with them.

The above question was asked by the Hon. Timothy Pickering, Esq. and the answer given by Mr. Lee, in my presence, this 4th day of July, 1791. BRINTON PAINE, *Judge.*

Question asked by Brinton Paine, Esq. Was you, at the time of the purchase made by Mr. Phelps, interested, either directly or indirectly, in the purchase of said lands?

Answer. I was not. BRINTON PAINE.

Thomas Rees, of Northumberland, in the State of Pennsylvania, of lawful age, testifies and says: That he accompanied the Seneca nation of Indians from the treaty held at Newtown Point, to the Genesee river, and, at the request of the said Indians, he, together with Messrs. Thomas and William Morris, received a thousand dollars of Oliver Phelps, Esq. (rising of seven hundred dollars of which sum was in cash, and the residue in calicoes and linens, estimated at a reasonable price) and delivered the same to the chiefs of the Seneca nation, in the presence of their nation, and a number of white people; and, on the receipt of said cash and goods, the chiefs delivered to Mr. Morris and myself an obligation, given by said Oliver Phelps, Esq. payable to the Seneca nation, dated at Buffalo Creek, July, A. D. 1788, promising to pay five hundred dollars per annum to the Five Nations forever.

Mr. Thomas Morris, in my presence, by the order of the chiefs, endorsed on said obligation, "one thousand dollars, in full, for two years rent;" which the said Indians then declared to be in full of all demands against said Phelps to that time. And the chiefs departed in great harmony, appearing to be well satisfied with the payment they had received. And the deponent further says, that, soon after the above payment, he was at Buffalo creek and other Indian towns, and that the Indians appeared well satisfied with the said Oliver Phelps, Esq. and much attached to him. Further the deponenent saith not.

THOMAS REES, Jr.

Sworn before JOHN BARCLAY, *Mayor.*

PHILADELPHIA, *January* 20, 1791.

James Wadsworth, of the town of Genesee, in the county of Ontario, and State of New York, of lawful age, testifies and says: That he was present when the payment was made by Oliver Phelps, Esq. to the Seneca nation of Indians, some time in the month of August last, at Genesee river, and that he saw Messrs. Thomas Rees, Thomas and William Morris, count out the money, estimate, and deliver the goods to the chiefs of the Seneca nation. And the deponent further says, that, on Oliver Phelps, Esqr. informing the chiefs that he was about to leave the country for the winter, the chiefs and other Indians gathered around him, expressed their attachment to him, declaring that they ever applied to him for advice and instruction, and requested him to appoint a chief of the white people in his absence. The deponent further saith, that he continued at the Genesee river until some time in the month of September, and that he never heard any one of the Indians express any mark of disapprobation, but, on the contrary, appeared pleased with the payment they had received of Oliver Phelps, Esq.

JAMES WADSWORTH.

Sworn before me. JOHN BARCLAY, *Mayor*.

PHILADELPHIA, *January* 21, 1791.

I was present at the payment made by Oliver Phelps, Esqr. on account of himself and Nathaniel Gorham, Esqr. to the Seneca nation of Indians, in the month of July last, at the Genesee river. This payment consisted of the sum of one thousand dollars, (two annual payments being then due) the greater part in money, and the remainder in goods, (which goods were valued by a Mr. Reese, who was appoinied by the Indians as their agent.) I assisted in counting out the money and in distributing the goods, and signed the endorsement on the bond as a witness of the payment. The Indians appeared universally well satisfied with the payment. There was some little difference among themselves, with respect to their proportions, but they declared, more than once, that, with respect to Mr. Phelps, they had nothing to complain of, but were perfectly satisfied that he had paid them honestly. In this opinion they went home, and separated in much harmony with Mr. Phelps.

WM. W. MORRIS.

January 18*th*, 1792.

I, Eleazer Lindley, of lawful age, testify and say, that I was present at Canandaigua some time in August, 1789, and that the chiefs of the Six Nations were assembled for the purpose of receiving their pay for the purchase of their lands in the Genesee country, which purchase I understood was made by Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham, Esqrs. and that the chiefs then appointed five agents (to receive their money and goods for them) to wit: Jones, Smith, Rozeeranty, Jack Berry, and one Matthews, who acted as an interpreter for the Cornplanter; that the agents counted the money, and appraised the goods, and then declared to the chiefs that it was right; that they had laid off money and goods to the amount of five thousand dollars, according to the form of the bond, and that the chiefs came forward and received the money and goods, and expressed their entire satisfaction; that then the Cornplanter gave up the bond to Oliver Phelps, and said they had received the full amount thereof. I further say, that, after the goods were appraised, and the money counted by the above mentioned agents, the said Oliver Phelps, Esqr. insisted that the chiefs should examine the money and goods for themselves, to see that they had received the full consideration of the bond; which they accordingly did, and appeared satisfied.

And further say not.

ELEAZER LINDLEY.

Subscribed and sworn at Newtown Point, this fifth day of July, in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety one.

Before me, JONA. GAZLEY J. P.

Extract from the proceedings of Colonel Timothy Pickering with the Seneca Indians, held at Tioga Point, November 21st, 1790.

[Then Red Jacket rose and spoke as follows:]

BROTHER:

Now you begin to hear of the situation of our lands. Mr. Phelps and Doctor Benton came on to rake open the fire again at Canedesago. After they were come there, Mr. Phelps passed on to Niagara, and went to our old friend Colonel Butler, whom he met at a tavern. Colonel Butler asked him of his business. He answered that he came to kindle a fire at Canedesago. Then Colonel Butler told him that Canedesago was not a fit place at which to kindle a fire; and that our old custom was to kindle a fire at our own castle. Colonel Butler told him that he thought he must build a fire at Buffalo creek; and if he did, that he believed he should attend the treaty. Mr. Phelps expressed his fears, that if he held the treaty there, he should meet some difficulty. Then, I, Billy, and Cajeagayonh, (Heap of Dogs) went to Canedesago, took Mr. Phelps by the hand, and led him to our council fire at Buffalo creek. All these people here know what speech Mr. Phelps sent us—(then pointing to the Farmer's Brother, Billy, and others, said)—these went to Canedesago, to see what the business was. These all know, and Mr. Street knows, that Mr. Phelps held up a long paper, with a seal as big as my hand. When he opened his mind to us, we took it hard. We wanted to keep a large piece of land, but it was not in our power. Mr. Street, (pointing to him on the bench) you know very well, a treaty was held all night, to fix the boundary, and the price of the land. These men (Mr. Smith, the Farmer's Brother, O'Beel, Little Billy, Heap of Dogs, China Breast-plate, and I, were there) know very well, the proposal was, that Mr. Phelps should give us ten thousand dollars for the purchase, and five hundred dollars annual rent. That was the agreement made that night. The bargain was not finished till morning; and just as we went out of the house, the sun rose. Then we sought for persons to draw the writings. The persons chosen were Mr. Kirkland, Colonel Butler, and Captain Brandt. Mr. Street was not then present. After this, the bargain being completed, Mr. Street took our papers with him to Niagara. And, last summer a year ago, we came to Canandaigua, expecting to receive ten thousand dollars; but then we found we had but five thousand to receive. When we discovered the fraud, we had a mind to apply to Congress, to see if the matter could not be rectified: for, when we took the money and shared it, every one here knows, that we had but about a dollar a piece, for all that country. Mr. Street! you very well know, that all that our lands came to, was but the price of a few hogsheads of tobacco. Gentlemen who stand by, (looking round, and addressing himself to the white people who were present,) do not think hard of what has been said. At the time of the treaty, twenty broaches would not buy half a loaf of bread, so that when we returned home, there was not a bright spot of silver about us. The last spring, again, General Chapin stretched out his hand to us to open a little fire at Big Tree Flats; and then I had a little talk with him; and finding we had but a shilling a piece to receive, we desired him to shut up his hand again. This is all we have to say of that time. Mr. Street knows how hard it was for us to part with our land. And this we have said, because we wish the President to know how we have been treated.

Now, BROTHER—the Thirteen States: you must open your ears. You know what has happened respecting our lands. You told us, from this time the chain of friendship should be brightened. Now, brother, we have begun to brighten the chain of friendship, and we will follow the steps of our forefathers. We will take those steps, that we may sit easy, and choose where and how large our seats should be. The reason we send this message, is, that the President, who is over all the thirteen States, may make our seats easy. We do it that the chain of friendship may be brightened with the thirteen States, as well as with the British; that we may pass from one to the other, unmolested. Brother, this is what your brothers, chiefs, and warriors, have to say to you, relative to brightening the chain of friendship. We wish to be under the protection of the thirteen States as well as of the British.

[Then he delivered me the belt, after which, taking up a parcel of papers, he proceeded thus:]

Brother: You know all relating to our lands; you know the whole affair. We have just told you it was two years that we have wanted to have a conference with Congress. Mr. Phelps did not purchase, but he leased the land. We opened our ears, and understood that the land was leased. This happened to us from our not knowing papers. Here they are, and you may see what they contain.

[He then handed me the papers. They were Mr. Phelps's bond for the 500 dollars annual rent of the land he bought of them, some copies of it, and a copy of their deed to him. He then proceeded.]

Brother: We have a little more to say to you. Here are Billy, and some others, who were at the treaty at the Ohio. They brought with them these papers, which we wish you to see. It is the mind of the Six Nations to keep these papers, that we may show them at treaties held by the thirteen States. It is our mind that you should know it. This belt came with these papers, and on the parchment annexed to it is mentioned the price of the land.

[He then handed to me the papers. One contained articles entered into between them and General St. Clair, describing certain boundaries between their lands and those of the United States. The subject of the other paper I do not recollect. The parchment label annexed to the belt, showed that it had been delivered by Richard Butler and John Gibson, whose names were written upon it; but nothing about the price of any land. The Indians desired of me information of the nature of the papers, which I gave them in general terms.]

2d Congress.] No. 26. [1st Session.

NORTHWESTERN TRIBES.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, JANUARY 30, 1792.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of War, transmitting, pursuant to the directions of the President of the United States, copies of the official communications which have passed between the Executive of the United States and the Governor of the State of Pennsylvania, upon the subject of the temporary defensive protection of the frontiers of that State.

No. 1.

Letter from the Governor of the State of Pennsylvania to the President of the United States.

Philadelphia, 22*d December*, 1791.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose, for your information, a copy of a representation which has been made to me by the inhabitants of the town of Pittsburg, expressing their apprehensions of an invasion by the hostile Indians; of the accumulation of the enemy's numbers; and stating the defenceless condition of the frontiers of Pennsylvania.

I am, sir, &c.

THO. MIFFLIN.

Representation from the inhabitants of the town of Pittsburg, dated

Pittsburg, 11*th December*, 1791.

Sir:

In consequence of the late intelligence of the fate of the campaign to the Westward, the inhabitants of the town of Pittsburg have convened, and appointed us a committee, for the purpose of addressing your Excellency. The late disaster of the army must greatly affect the safety of this place. There can be no doubt but the enemy will now come forward, and with more spirit, and greater numbers, than they ever did before, for success will give confidence, and secure allies.

We seriously apprehend that the Six Nations, heretofore wavering, will now avow themselves; at least, their young men will come to war. Be that as it may, the Indians at present hostile, are well acquainted with the defenceless situation of this town. During the late war there was a garrison at this place, though, even then, there was not such a combination of the savage nations, nor so much to be dreaded from them. At present, we have neither garrison, arms, nor ammunition, to defend the place. If the enemy should be disposed to pursue the blow they have given, which it is morally certain they will, they would, in our situation, find it easy to destroy us; and, should this place be lost, the whole country is open to them, and must be abandoned. The safety of this place being an object of the greatest consequence, not only to the neighboring country, but to the United States, as it is the point of communication to the Westward, and the proper depository of their magazines, it must be of the greatest consequence to preserve it.

We state these things to your Excellency as the executive authority of the Government, that, if any thing can be done by your Excellency towards our immediate defence, it may be done; if not, your Excellency will communicate our situation to our State Legislature, or to the General Government, as it may seem expedient or proper. Having the highest confidence in your Excellency's good disposition towards the citizens of this State in general, and those of this place in particular,

We are, your Excellency's obedient humble servants,

A. TANNEHILL,
JAMES O'HARA,
JOHN McMASTERS,
JOHN IRWIN,
WILLIAM TURNBULL,
JOHN WILKINS, Jun.

No 1

Articles of agreement made & Concluded this ninteenth day of April Anno Domini 1788. between the Hon.d Oliver Phelps Esq.r of Granville in the Commonwealth of Massachusets Bay for himself & his Aſsociates of the One part, And Robert VanRenselear Henry Livingston Caleb Benton John Bay and Ezekiel Gilbert Esq.rs a Committee for the New York Company of Aſsociates concerned in the purchace of the Lands from the six Nations of Indians Of the Other part

Whereas the said Oliver Phelps and his Aſsociates have Lately purchaced of the Commonwealth of Masachusetts Bay the Right of preemption to all the Lands Ceded by the State of New York to the said Commonwealth, lying within the State of New York aforesaid, at the sum of Three Hundred thousand pounds in the Consolidated Notes of the said Commonwealth and Whereas the New York Company of Aſsociates have purchaced of the Native Indians, all the afs.d lands, agreeably to a Certain Lease, by the said Indians made to the s.d Company baring date the last day of November last

Now this Agreement in Order to Effect an Amicable settlement, between the parties afs.d in Regard to the afs.d lands the Right of preemption whereof hath so been purchaced of the Commonwealth of Masachusetts Bay) upon Equal Terms, Witneſseth

I. The said Oliver Phelps for himself and his Aſsociates, for the Considerations and Conditions hereafter Mentioned to be performed by the party of the second part) doth hereby Undertake and Agree, to Release, Convey and Confirm to the party of the second part, and their Aſsociates and their Heirs and Aſsigns one Equal Six part of all the said Lands Contained

Contained

ORIGINAL IN MANUSCRIPT DEPARTMENT
BUFFALO AND ERIE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14216

Contained in the said Masachusets Right of preemption lately purchased as afsd. and to make and Execute good and Sufficient deeds in the Law for such purpose whenever thereunto required, after securing the Indian title for the said Lands —

II. The party of the second part for themselves and their Associates (as a Consideration for the preformances of the afforegoin undertakeing and Agreement of the said Oliver Phelps, that ~~they shall~~, do hereby undertake and agree to and with the said Oliver Phelps that they shall and will compleat their Indian purchase of the Afsd. lands so as to procure the Indian title therefor on or before the first day of June Next in such a manner as to Enable the said Phelps and his Associates to Obtain a Confirmation of such Indian title to them [illegible] from the said Commonwealth [illegible] agreeably to the provision and terms specefied and Contained within the deed of Session from the state of New York to the Commonwealth aforesaid —

III. And the said Oliver Phelps for himself and his Associates in Consideration of such Indian Title as aforesaid being procured and Vested in him and his Associates so as to Enable him & them to Obtain such Confirmation as Afsd. doth hereby likewise promise and agree to pay and allow therefor to the party of the second part and their Associates the full Amount of the five sixth parts of the sum of Twenty Thousand Spannish Milled dollars by accounting therefore in crediting and in discounting the same as hereafter Mentioned —

IV. And the party of the second part in Consideration likewise of the preformance of the undertakeing of the said Oliver Phelps — Contained in the first Clause aforegoing do hereby undertake and Agree to pay to the said Oliver Phelps one Equal sixth

Part of the Vallue of three hundred thousand pounds of the consolidated notes of the aforesaid commenwelth; to be paid as follows To wit. the afs^{d} five sixth of the sum of twenty Thousand spannish Millie dollars; payable by the said Oliver Phelps shall be by him Allowed and Descounted as part payment of the above proportion of the said three hundred thousand pounds of Consolidated Notes at the rate of four shillings of the said Specie dollars for every twenty shillings of the said consolidated notes and that the remainder being a Ballence which after deduction shall be found due to the said Oliver Phelps shall be paid in Manner following to wit: At the rate of six Shillings lawfull money of the said Commonwelth in Specie for twenty shillings of the said Consolidated Notes and that such Ballence be paid unto the said Oliver Phelps, within one year from the date of this Agreement with the Lawfull Interest of the said Commonwelth to be calculated from the Thirty first day of march last untill paid further the party of the second part do hereingage, whenever the said Phelps and his Associates release and Convey to them and their Associates the afs^{d} sixth part of all the Land^{s} afs^{d} or tender good Deeds in the Law for that purpose that they shall and will as a condition for demanding the said deeds, give to the said Oliver Phelps good and sufficient security for the payment of the Ballence and Monies afs^{d} agreed to be paid in manner and form ~~following~~ afs^{d} —

V And the said Oliver Phelps for himself and his Associates in Consideration of the acceptance and Compliance of the party of the second part with the aforegoing terms on his part doth hereby agree and promise to grant and Convey in addition to the afs^{d} sixth part of all the af^{d} lands three Equal one hundred and twenty full Shares of all the aforesaid lands contained within the said Masachusets preemption to have and to hold the same to the party of the Second part their Associates their Heirs and assigns free and Clear of all Expence of preemption And further the said Oliver Phelps hereby agrees to locate to and for the party of the second part and their Associates, one third part of all the lands which by the aforegoing agreement, the said Oliver Phelps has engaged to grant release and Convey to the said party of the second part and their Associates, to be located at such place and in such Manner as shall be Mutually agreed upon by and Between the said Oliver Phelps and the aforementioned Caleb Benton, Which Location is to be made upon the ground as soon as the Native title shall be secured — Further it is agreed by and Between both parties to this agreement that the aforesaid sixth part of all the said lands herein before mentioned to be granted to the party of the second part, shall be ascertained by such disinterested men as shall be mutually hereafter agreed upon by both parties, who are to ascertain the same by Takeing into consideration the Vallue ga and Quantity of all the Afs.d Lands Contained Within the Aforesaid Claim of Masachusets preemption, and that such appraisement or Valuation aforesaid shall be Made up on the state and Condition of the said lands at this present time — it is hereby understood by both parties that whatever Annual rents shall be payable hereafter to the Native Indians, for the Afs.d Lands shall be divided and Born by Each party in proportion to the divisions and Apportionment of the lands between Each Other and that one half of the Annual rents to the Nations payable by the Covenants contained in the Seneca Lease

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Comprehending the afsd Lands as well as the lands lying within the New York right of preemption shall be paid by the party of the second part

It is further agreed by both parties that the residue of the landd hereby to be granted to the party of the second part which are not heretofore mentioned to be Located, shall Likewise be Located as soon as the quantity and quantity of all the lands can be Conveniently ascertained

It is further understood hereby that Mr Kirkland the superintendant to approve of the Native purchase agreeable to the Appointment of the Commonwealth is to attend on the Buisness at the Expence of of the party of the second part In Witness whereof the parties to these Agreement have hereunto interchangeably set their hands and Seals the day and first above Written

Signed Sealed
Delivd in presence
of

Jacob Henry Wendell
William Wall

Oliver Phelps
Robert Van Rensselaer
Henry Livingston
Caleb Benton
Ezekiel Gilbert

6"

It is the intent and meaning of the foregoing agreement that whatever lands the Natives shall actually reserve to themselves shall be deducted and born between the parties — upon the proportion afs.d of one Sixth part or as 23 Shares is to 120 Shares —

It is likewise to be understood that the Location afore ~~above~~ mentioned in the said agreement to be made in favour of the party of the second part shall be born done — at the Expence of the said second part

Signed Sealed
& deliver.d in
the presence of us

Henry Livingston (Seal)

Caleb Benton (Seal)

James Hambleton

Sturgin Sloan

Ezekiel Gilbert (Seal)

Oliver Phelps (Seal)

No. 5 –

Articles of agreement
between the Hond. Oliver
Phelps for himself & his
Associates of the One part

And –

Messrs. Robert Van Rensselaer
Henry Livingston
Caleb Benton John
Bay and Ezekiel
Gilbert, for themselves
and their Associates of
the Second part

Subscribed to by both
parties the 15th day of
April Anno domine
1788

No 12

181

Copie of John Jonsons, Letter
to Capt. John Deserontyon dated Quebec
Aprile 21st 1788

Friend & Brother,

I have read your Letter to the Comanander in Chief, Who desires me to say that he Will lay your request before the Council so soon as he receives Ample Instructions for the granting of Lands, Which have not ye come to hand though daily expected; and for Wh reason the Grants to the Loyalists have not y made, As they, not, doe I imagine You Would to take your Grant on the present Tenures of the Country, When better are expected. The Governor is desirous to do You every justice in his power, and has Your Interest and happiness much at heart too much so to take away anie thing from You or Your nation. but as it Was found that extending Your line to the River [illegible] Would be injuring the Settlement of the numerous body of Loyal Who are, or May Wish to be settled there, by restrict them from extending themselves Wherever good

(208)

May be found p ularly as it Will leave
You Every ample e for Your People or
Anie Number of ie Nations or Others who
May Wish to join Settlement, as Your
line Will extend to Creek Where Crizdale
lived, from the l n by Mr. Collins, between
You and Bowen — You Will also have
the Island grant Your Self, and You
May Cut What r You please around
for the u Your buildings &c —
Ground Cl y the White People
that May fall Wi e Above described
limits Must be De dered to You — I have
to request that Yo ll no longer think Your-
-self Agrieved, b t satisfied that We
have Your Interes happiness Much at
heart, and that I s I have ever been
Your and Your Na Sincere friend and
ffull humble Servt

Syo

John Johnson

Copie of Sr. John Jonson
Bart's Letter dated Quebec
Aprile 21st 88 To Capt. John

April 21 - 1788

Stockbridge May 7th 1788 —
set out from Stockbridge for the
Indian Country —
detained in Schenectady, by the
high water, & my company not
coming on, whom I expected up
Mohawk river, till the 14th Inst.
14. Wednesday) [illegible] meeting —
of ye Board in Boston
in April. it was proposed yt I sd make
an excursion into ye Seneka country &
obtain a knowledge of its situation —
19 — at Jikaghquati a conference
with some of ye Oneidas —
20 — had a conference with the Chiefs
at Oriska — to our mutual satisfaction
22. Fort Stanwix — here met with a number
of ye Oneidas, & ye whole of ye Oriska Indians
Friday May 23 — Left Fort Stanwix —
reached Armstrongs — on wood Creek —
24 reached ye Oneida Lake —
25 Sunday — We tarried here this
day — in expectation of meeting with the
Oneidas — at ye inlet of ye Oneida

Creek — agreeably to appointm^t — but y^e wind was so high, we c^d nei^r get to y^m nor y^y to us — towards evening a small number collected — with three Cayoga Chiefs — w^h I was requested to attend — divine worship — discoursed from Job — why do y^e wicked prosper &c —

in y^e evening — spent spent some time in convers^n w^th y^e cayogas — upon y^e state & disposit^n of their nation —

26 — monday — wind bound this day till ~~near~~ evening — when we set out to cross the Lake which is about 30 miles in length — from five to 12 in width — lies nearly east & west —

27. a little after sunrise cross'd the lake about day break passed, w^t is called gull Island — about five miles from y^e outlet — or Fort Brewington, so called — this Island contains about 15 acres — upon w^h is some thrifty timber — about 20 years since stood a remarkably large button wood tree — 9 feet diameter — 27 circumference — I have been .

credibly informed - yt upwards of twenty men have at one time crowded into its hollow trunk - when it lay upon ye ground -

halted a few moments for breakfast below ye Out-let -

about noon reached the Three Rivers so called - about 25 miles from the outlet of ye Oneida Lake - 24 miles on this side Oswego - & near 80 miles by water from Kanadasegea or Seneka Lake - which is about 50 miles on ys side of Genisee -

The junct. of ye waters being nearly at right angles - it is called by ye Indians Tyojeandogee - or rather one stream intersects ye other at right angles - The waters from the East are only ye outlet of the Oneida Lake - wh several rivulets

The principle streams wch empty into ye Oneida Lake are the

fish Creek — wood Creek - oneida
& Conaughsaraga Creeks —
the waters ~~communicating~~ running from y^e
Southward - before their junct
at y^e place, are made up or
composed of eight different lakes,
Viz - onondago. salt lake -
Skaniyades, waskon, Tyonk-
tow - or cross lake - Cayoga lake
seneka d^o - crooked lake - &
Konnaddaicqwe - 2 of these lakes
are 37 miles in length - the
others from 6 to 20 -

at the Three Rivers - we halted
& dined - or rather took some refresht
~~27 Wed~~ & then went forward about
2 miles & encamped -
28 Wednesd^y - it rained all the fore
noon - w^ch detained us - till 2,o Clock

P.M. then put forward & went about 12 miles & encamped on ye north side - the current was so strong & ye water so high, we were obliged to drag our boat by ye bushes & limbs of ye trees on ye river side -

29 - This day set out early - went 10 or 12 miles, the current being violently strong against us most ye day - encamped on ye north side of ye River - about 2 miles east of Cross Lake so called - in Indian Tyorktown -

30 - set out early ye morning - after passg ye Cross lake overtook two Indian Canoes bound to Kanadasegea - then came to ye Island called by battoemen - 4000 Islands - here comes in the waters from the Lakes called Skaneyades Owaskon - about 16 - & 14 miles east - Cayuga - & belonging to yir territory. -

a little before night reached ye Cayoga Salt Springs - but c'd make no discoveries of ye strength of ye wa'r the spring being covered with ye high water - passed this 2 miles - & encamped on a small beautiful Island

31. - Saturday - left our encampt early - & soon entered a large bay 4 or 5 miles in width & ye same in length - when it contracted, & ye outlet of ye Cayoga Lake came in view - wch we soon crossed ~~about~~ & entered ye outlet of Seneka or Kan: lake -

about 1 o'Clock arrived at ye Seneke falls called in Indian Janowēongaiaih - at this place overtook Capt Allen wch kindly assisted us in crossg ye falls -

June 1 - ~~[illegible]~~ arrived at Skayes ye long rapids - about 8 miles - ~~Here~~ put up the remaining part of ye day

2. monday - about 11 - Clock reached
Kanadasegea - where at ye
place a considerable Number of
six Nations are already convened
in expectation of a general ~~treaty~~ -

8. L.D. preached to a considerable
assembly - about sixty white
persons & near twice ye number
Indians of several nations -
men of Onondagas - Cayogas & Senekas
I have come in thro'
Saturday & ye week past - spent consider
time in conversing with ye Sagams upon yir present
situation & disposit. towards ye U.S. -

15 The white peo. & Indians of
5 different nat. assembled for
worship ~~under~~ in the shade
of some large trees by ye lakeside
I discoursed to ym from 1 Tim. 6.6.
"But godlin. &c This is ye
sermon ever preached upon ye
ground - speaking & praying in

two Languages - necessarily lengthened out my discourse beyond what is usual - towards Eveng the old Onondago Chiefs & two Senekas came to my quarters, to thank me for ye goods word wh I had spoken to ym ye day - express: yr hearty wish, yt Indians might believe it -- also several Indians who formerly resided at Onohoghgwage & now live on Genesee River - one belonged to Mr Crosby's Congregn - these expressed yr joy with tears, on hearg ye Jesus once more. It brought former days fresh to mind when ya heard ye glad sound from Sabbath to Sabbath -

these informed me, yt ~~left~~ they had kept up ye worship in ye

in ye village most of them
since ye war - expressed an
earnest desire yt I would visit
this fall or next spring -

19 - Friday have had several Con-
ferences with ye Indians durg
ye week past - but find religs
matters cant be attended to wh
no advantage till ye treaty be
over - & other business is comple-
ted -

Recd an Invity from the Chiefs
on Buffaloe Creek - to remove
ye intended Council fire to said place
& requested particularly my
attendance -

NB. the Cross Lake lies due N. & S.
10 m. in length – 2 1/2 wide –
from the outlet of + L – on the
west side – the first turn in ye
River – W. 10 d. – S. – 160 rd. – |
160 rd. W. 25 dg. S | 320 rd. S 15. d. W
320 rd. S. W. | 320 r. – W 10 d. S. (N.B. here
2 1/2 wide
begin ye 1000 Islands –) [illegible] m. W. 10 d. N.
passing ~~Island~~ – | 1 m. N. 20 d. W. |
1 m. W. 10 d. N. | ~~160~~ 1 m. rd. W. ~~2~~ 1/2 m W. 4 d. S
80 rd. W 10 d. N. | 80 r. W 15. d. N. |
~~2 m.~~ 3 m. W. 40 d. N. | 1/2 m. W. 20 d. N |
to ye muschittoe place ~~[illegible]~~ out N.
let of Weiskon – then 1/2 m. W. 30
NB here comes in a River
1/2 m. W. | 1/2 m. W. 20 deg S. | ~~[illegible]~~ 5
1 m. S. 25 d. W. | 160 rd. S. 20 d. E. |
a l. Bay N side wide
1 m. W. 25 S | 1/2 m. W. | 1/2 m. S. W.
2 m. – 40 d. N. NB. wide & a large
Island at ye right – 1 1/2 m. wide ye R.
for ye whole ye turn – & on ye N. side
many Islands

1/2 m.e W | 80 rods - W. 5 d.s S. |

80 rods, W. - 20 d.s S. |

the long bay S. 10 d.s W. - 2 miles -

then 2 m.s more - S. 15 d.s E -

N.B. ye salt sp.g - & west a large

Island at ye west side - & falls

in ye Kanandaigue outlet - |

to ye Salt Sp.g - 1 mile S. - 25 d.s W. |

& 4 1/2 m.s S. 15 d.s W. | N.B. a pleasant Island

on ye west - near 3/4 mile in length |

80 r.d S. W. to ye head of the Island -

80 r.d S. W. from ye head of Island -

here ye marsh is 4 m.s wide - |

160 r.d S. 10 d.s W. | 40 r.d S. |

3 miles from ye Islands to ye outlet

of Cayoga Lake - the last 3/4 mile

is S. - 16 deg E - |

From the outlet of Cayoga Lake

to the inlet of Kanadasega 3 m.s -

S. - W. | & after entering ye Seneka 120 r.d - N 30 d.s W.

80 rd. N. 10 d. W. / 40 rd. N. 40 N

30 r. N 10 d. W / 40 rd. N. 40 W. /

70 rd. N. 45 d. W / 30 rd. W. 20 N. / 80. d. W.

80 rd. W. 30 S / 80 r. S. 30 W /

60 r. S. 10 W / 40 r. S. 30 W / 60 r. S. 2 W

60 r. S. 20 W / 40 r. S. 15 W. /

80 r. W. 20 S strong water / 40 r. W /

To ye foot of ye falls — The course of

the falls S. W. 3/4 mile / then 80 r.

W. 20 d. S. / 40 r. S. 30 d. W /

40 r. W. 10 S / 80 r. W. / 80 r. W 4 S.

80 r. W. 15 S / 120 r. W. 20 S /

40 r. W. / Ell wear / 120 r. W

10 r. N. / 60 r. W. 4 d. S / 40 r. [illegible] /

80 r. W. 5 S / 40 r. W / 80 r. N

35 W. — Bough Island on ye South side

50 r. W. — ye begining of ye Skayes

then
1/2 a mile of the rapids –
W. 2 days. N. | – then 80 r. S.W
80 r. – W – 5 d. S. ~~AB~~ – an Island –
the head of the rapids –
120 W. 5 d. N 4. 1 mile W 15 d. S
160 r. W | 80 r. W. 5 d. N. | ~~80~~ 120 W 15 N |
creek on r.t left
860 W – 10 d. S | 80 r. W | 80 r. W. 10 S |
40 r. W | 50 r. W. 10 N | 80 r. W. 30 S. |
40 r. W. 5 d. S | 40 r. W 10 N |
20 r. W | 40 r. W 10 S | 240 r. S W |
240 r. S. W. | 80 r. – W – 20 S. |
240 r. S. 30 W. | 80 r. N. 30 W |
40 r. W | 15 r. – W. 40 d. N. |
80 r. N. 40 d. W |

Saturday June 20th - 12 o'Clock -
set out from Kanadasegea for Buffaloe Creek to attend a treaty wth ye Six Ny - in company wth Dr. Benton - Gilbert - Dean - & a Mr. Barton & Johnson from sd place - also - also - a number of ye Seneka Chiefs - & Monsr Debarge - reached the lake called Kanandauaque - about 16 miles f Kanadasegea. The first four miles passed thro' the old fields - of ye ancient Seneka town - called Kanaghsasegea - then entered a swamp, or low lands - thick timber'd about 5 miles thro' - in the middle of wh is good stream called in English Flint Brook - after passing this came to open land - where was formerly a Seneka settlet called Anaye. - f thence most ye open land to ye lake which is about 15 miles in length - lies in a circular form - almost intercected in ye middle by a point of land o the west side - at ye south end of ye lake, was formerly a small

Village called Kaaghcandgie —
south East ity about 12 miles is ye
lake called Teyanyadaliekton —
or crooked lake — which lies nearly
in ye form of an em this Y — south
ity is ye direct indian path — from
Kanatalens town or south end
of Seneka Lake to Chenisseyo —
by way of kanigayen —
this crooked lake enters or
empties its in ye South end of
Seneka Lake — a few miles north
west of ye head of sd Lake. —
NB — high lands at ye South end
of ye Kanandaiegua lake

21 — L.D. our stay was sd ye day & the
weather threating that it was concluded
best on ye whole to proceed on our journey
if possible to reach the Village on the Chenisseo
River called Kanawageas — about 30 miles — accordingly
about 8 o'clock — gin under way —
a little after sunset arrived at Kana-
wageas — a small village consisting only
8 houses — the inhabitants were distressed

for want o provision y^t we c^d procure no
one single article 1s to lengthen out our
provisions w^ch began to be short -
in our rout y^s day crossed four small
streams of water - the one w^ch was the
outlet of y^e lake called Hanughfeus
w^ch empties itself in y^e outlet of Kanan
daiqua - y^e creek is of considerable
bigness - but not navigable about
its confluence w^th y^e R -

22 Monday - went down y^e Genesee Creek
about 8 miles to where one Allen
resides - formerly a small indian
Village - but long since deserted - a
most beautiful situation - & fine large extensive
flatts - Ab^t a large creek empties
into y^e Genesee about a mile 1s
Allens - ~~ab~~ about 1 mile a petrifying Spring -

23. Tuesd^y rode to see y^e ancient ruin
an Indian fort - including about 4 acres -
The ditch appears to be about 8 feet wide
& six deep - with two or six gates -
The ditch is drawn in a circular
form on three sides - y^e 4^th is defended by
a high bank - at y^e fort w^ch is a spring

stream & water - probably the bank
was secured by a stockade - or there
appears to a covered way from the interior
of ye bank down to ye water =
some of ye trees round ye ditch appear
it appear to 200 yrs old —
N.B. - about half a mile south & upon
a greater eminence - is another
old fort less in size - but the ditch
deeper - & its situa more lofty —
Indian tradit. says these were built
previous to ye joining of ye confederacy
of ye Mohawks - Onondagas - Oneidas
& Cayugas - when they were at war
with ye Messasages & western Indians
round ye great lakes.

returned to Kanawageas —
24 - Wednesd. set out on our journey
to Buffaloe Creek —
halted at ye Creek called ye many
falls — about 12 miles - rode most of ye
way over a barren shrub plain
next stage 12 miles - at ye fork of ye
Chenessee Road - 12 miles -
maple & Beech - past swamps

rode about 2 miles furg & encamped
at ye place called Kaickom—
on ye River Tanawande — which empties
itself into Erie outlet about 10 miles north
of the mouth of Buffaloe creek—

25

rode about 6 miles to ye open fields
& there breakfasted. this place is called
by ye Senekes Tegatainedaghgwe ~~import~~
The double fortified town—
here are ye remains of two ancient fortifica,
the ditch of one — wch I viewed, is now, near
six feet deep — they contain about 4 acres
each — & were placed at ~~the~~ the extremities
of ye town — which was mr. than 1 mile in
length — situated upon very high ground —
a small run of living water circumscribed
the one half — the hight affords a grand
prospect — more than 1000 acres now
clear — near the northermost fort
is ye remains of a funeral pile, raised
about six feet f ye surface & abt. 20 feet
diameter — where were buried the slain
of ye Enemies & ye Senekas in a b battle
ye had wth ye Western Indians—

by y^r acc^t about 270 y^rs ago —
from this place we rode over a fine
tract of land for 6 or 7 miles — the
timber, maple — beech — ash — walnut — Elm &
Basswood — then came on to a barren
white oak shrub plain — & one remark-
barren spot of near 200 acres — & a steep
hill on our right, iron bound bank
in some places — near 40 feet perpen-
dicular — this barren spot is cover'd
w^th small stone like lime stone — the
winter green berries uncommonly large,
a small Lake at y^e foot of y^e mountain
where Indians say, resides a snake
or dragon — w^ch often discorges balls
of liquid fire — at the extremity
of y^e barren plain reached the To-
nawanda River — crossed it on
our way to Buffaloe —
NB — near this ancient funeral
pile — the rodes part — one lead to Niagara
& the other Buffaloe — NB — the water
appear on y^e whole surface five feet raised the
about 2 o'Clock halted on y^e

other side of the Tuscarawas Creek - at a little distance wch is ye remains of one ancient fortified town -

here while we halted & a little refresht ~~some curiosity~~ we were entertained wth a curious sight - a black ~~st~~ snake climbg or crawlg up a tree in quest of some young birds wch ~~she~~ she heard chirpg in ye trunk of ye tree about 20 feet from ye ground. - The snake partly twined about ye tree as she ascended making a number of curves in her body - & when she came up to ye hole or nest ~~of young~~ of ye young bird - raised her head in a lofty manner & looked ~~up~~ upon ye little harmless & helpless creature - wch & perch - & then retired speedily wth rapidity - we cut down ye tree & rescued two of ye young - ye 3d was near half down ye snakes throat & not injured. the snake was about 6 feet in length - we then rode on about 5 miles thro' a fine, forest land & well situated wth a variety of fine timber

when we left this - rode thro' a consider=
tract of open field & barren -
encamped at an old hunting house
at ye end of ye open ground - no sleep -
26 - friday set out early travelled
most of ye forenoon in ye rain - the knats
& muskitoes very troublesome -
about noon arrived at ye Cayoga
settlet on Buffalo Creek - from thence
accompanied by a number of Indians
down to ye Seneka settlet - on our
arrival here found ym all assembled
& a house prepared for our accommoda-
being first conducted there rested a
few minutes, when a message came
of ye Chiefs requesting our attendance
at ye council house
in Counsel - & read a congratulatory
address on our safe arrival - we were
conducted the council house by their
messenger - wch was crowded at one end
to ye door - beside near 100 of young
warriors who were a-lying on ye
ground - having taken our seats
& lighted our pipes - the Cayoga
Chiefs called ye first ceremonies
&c.

in ye name of six Ny
& addressed us in a very handsome
manner — & welcomed our arrival —
observed in ye close of speech, yt
yr chiefs were not all arrived & they
were not ready to proceed to busis —
26. Saturdy — called upon Capt Brant
Capt David & ye: of Mohawk tribe
also — introduced to four Cherokee
Chiefs who are here on a visit —
also an interview wt several Chiefs —
27. L.D — . — Coll. Butler arrived —

Rememr a wrapper, black, or yallow - for Sally

---

22 August 1798 -
paid H. Vn Schaack Esqr
£3-17-5 indorsed on my
note

May. 7[illegible]
made made a payment to Mr.
Henry of Albany - of £6-7-0
Vid.^t his receipt -

---

also made a small payment
to Mr. Robinson & Keselboom

---

engaged a pr. of new boots of
Mr. Franingshaw - to be made
within one week - & delivered when
ever called for - paid down 60/ -
purchased a pr. of shoes - price 12/ -
not paid for ..

---

13. Schenectady May 13 - paid Mrs.
Peggy post - 18/ for a blanket -
bout of Mr. Post - last winter -

---

paid Mr. Marsley - 9/ - for a
pr. of buckskin gloves which he
is to send to me, by Mr. A Schuyler.

travelling expences - betwixt Stockbridge & Albany - lodg & dity going	0 - 7 - 6
ferriage 9	0 - 0 - 9
g at Albany - 18/6	0 - 18 - 6
at Schenectady	0 - 6 - 0
at Kanajoharry & L falls	0 - 6 - 4
at German Flatts	0 - 2 - 0
at Capt Myers's	0 - 4 - 6
at Fort Stanwix	0 - 4 - 6
Horsekeeping	0 - 3 - 0
	2 : 4 : 10
NB - paid Major Schuyler on half Johannes - Draut -	
at Oneida for fetchg my matrass & blankets	0 - 6 - 0
washing at Kanadasegea	0 - 8 - 0
1 qt wine	0 - 4 - 0
1 qt Rum	0 - 2 - 0
1 pt do - for sev Indians	0 - 1 - 2
at Buffaloe 4/ - provis & washings 2 shirts	0 - 4 - 0
	3 10 - 0

Brought over 3-10-0

The use of my Matrass Blanket
the one of which nearly worn out } 0-18-

To ~~three~~ four days board at Kanadasegue

The use of ~~my~~ horse
~~horse keep~~ & ~~of hire~~ -112 miles
from Albany to Fort Schuyler } 1-17-4

the keep of horse at Fort Stanwix
8 weeks at 1/- each 6/- } 0-14-0

£ 6-9 4

6 days allowed to return to
Albany ~~at travelling expenses~~ } 6-0-0

Washing & soap at
Kanadasegue } 0-4-0

July 26 - paid Mr Weaver, of Old-
Fort Schuyler 20/ - being the whole
of his demands upon me £1-0-0

paid 1 doll - for shoeing horse
a by Mr Fancher

paid widdow Syar all her
demands

paid 1 dolr to Ferron to widdow
Pochaus-

4418

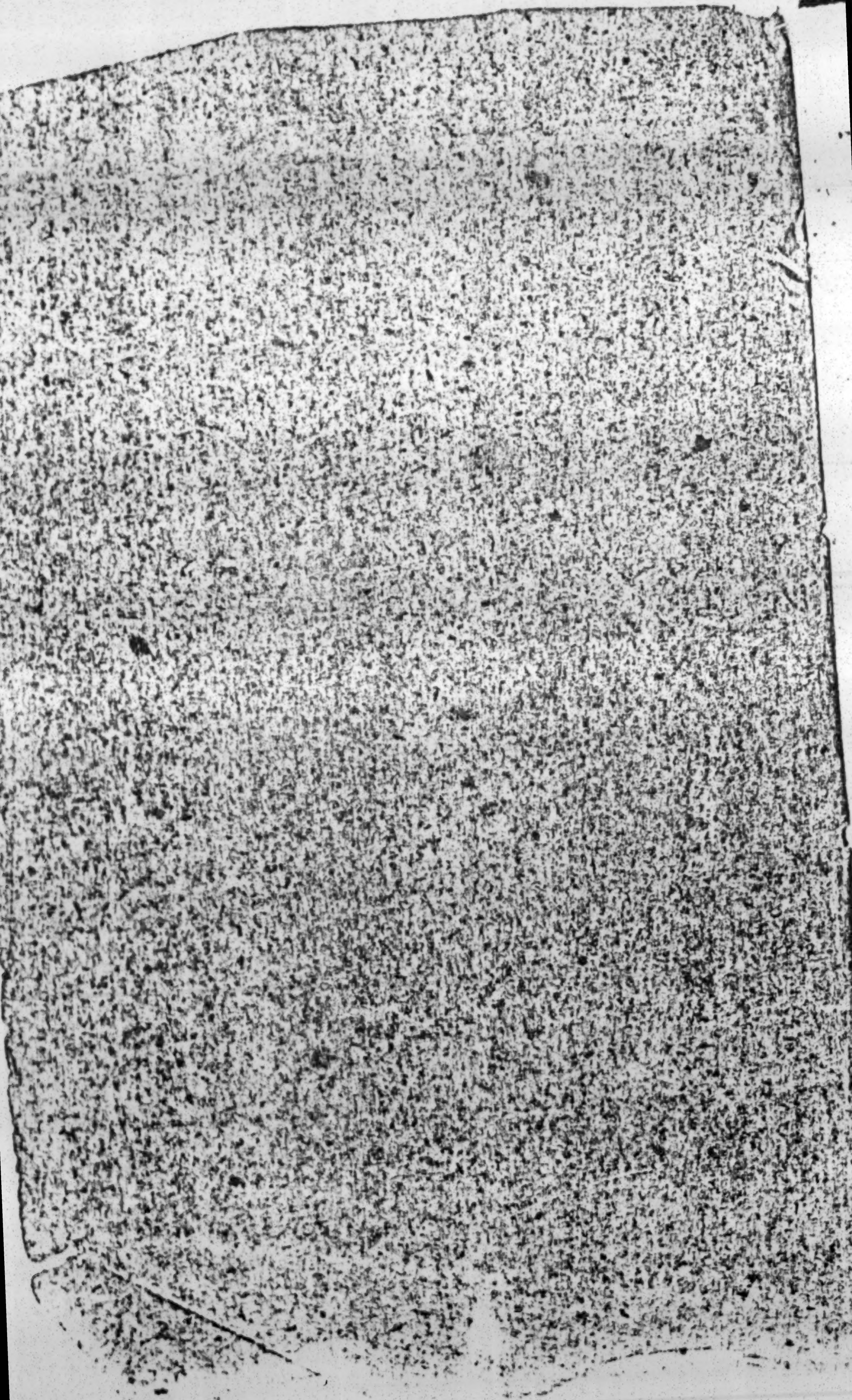
4 4

8-7

1-13-4

4

11



Stockbridge May 7th 1788

set out from Stockbridge for the Indian Country –

detained in Schenectady, by the high water, & my company not coming on, whom I expected up Mohawk river, till the 14th Inst. after

14. Wednesd) – [illegible] ye Board in Boston, in April it was proposed yt I shd undertake an excursion into ye Seneka country & obtain a [illegible] of its situation &c

19 – at Jikaghgoati – a conference with some of ye Oneidas –

20 – had a conference with the Chiefs at Oriska – to our mutual satisfaction

22. Fort Stanwix – here met with a number of ye Oneidas, & ye whole of ye Oriske Indians

Friday May 23 – Left Fort Stanwix – reached Armstrongs – on Wood Creek –

24 reached ye Oneida Lake –

25 Sunday – We tarried here this day – in expectation of meeting with the Oneidas – at ye inlet of ye Oneida

Creek - agreeably to appointmt - but
ye wind was so high, we cd neig get
to ym nor ya to us - towards evening a
small number collected - with three
Cayoga Chiefs - wch I was requested to attend - divine wor-
ship - discoursed from - Job - why
do ye wicked prosper &c --
in ye evening - spent spent some time
in conversn wth ye Cayogas - upon ye state &
disposit of their nation -

26 - monday - wind bound this day
till ~~near~~ evening - when we set out
to cross the Lake which is about 30
miles in length - & from five to 12 in
width - lies nearly East & West -

27. a little after sunrise crossd the lake
about day break passed, wt is called Gull
Island - about five miles from ye outlet -
or Fort Brewington, so called - This
Island contains about 15 acres - upon
wch is some thrifty timber - about
10 years since stood a remarkably large
Buttonwood tree - 9 feet diameter -
27 circumference - as I have been

credibly informed - yt upwards of twenty men have at one time crowded into its hollow trunk - when it lay upon ye ground -

halted a few moments for breakfast below ye outlet -

about noon reached the Three Rivers so called - about 25 miles from the outlet of ye Oneida Lake - 24 miles on this side Oswego - & near 80 miles by water from Kanadasegea or Seneka Lake - which is about 50 miles on ys side of Genesee -

The junct. of ye waters being nearly at right angles - it is called by ye Indians Tyojeandögea - or rather one stream intersects ye other at right angles - The waters from the East are only ye outlet of the Oneida Lake wth several rivulets the principle streams wch empty into ye Oneida Lake are the

fish Creek – wood Creek – oneida
& Conaughsaraga Creeks –
the waters ~~communicing~~ running from y
Southward – before ~~their~~ the junct
at y^e place, are made up or
composed of eight different lake
Viz – onondago . salt lake –
Skaniyades, waskon, Tyonk-
tow – or cross lake – Cayoga lake
seneka d^o – crooked lake – &
Kannandaicque – 2 of these lakes
are 37 miles in length – the
others from 6 to 20 –

at the Three Rivers – we halted
& dined – or rather took some refresh^mt
~~27 Wed~~ & then went forward about
3 miles & incamped –
28 Wed^d – it rained all the fore-
noon – w^e detained us – till 2 o'Clock

P M then put forward & went about 12 miles &
encamped on ye west side - the current was so
strong & ye water so high, were obliged
to drag our boat by ye bushes & limbs -
ye trees on ye river side -

29 - This day set out early went 1
10 or 12 miles the current being
violently strong against us most of ye
day - encamped on ye north side
- of River - about 2 miles east of
Cross Lake so called - in Indian
Tyarktoon -

30 - set out early ye morning - after
passg ye Cross lake overtook
two Indian Canoes bound to Ka-
nadasegea - then came to ye Island
called by battoemen - 4000 Islands -
here comes in the waters from
the Lakes called Skaneyades
& Owaskon - about 8 - & 14 miles
east - Cayuga - & belonging to
yir territory. -

a little before night reached ye
Cayoga Salt Springs - but made
no discoveries of ye Strength as ye wa
the Spring being covered with
of high water - passed this 2 miles - then ca
passed a small beautiful Island

31. - Saturday - left our incampment
early - & soon entered a large bay
4 or 5 miles in width & ye same
in length - when it contracted,
& ye outlet of ye Cayoga Lake
came in view - wh we soon crossed
~~about~~ & entered ye outlet of ye
Seneca or Kan. lake
about 1 oClock arrived at ye
Snake falls called in Indian
janoweangaiaih - at this place
overtook Capt. Allen wh kindly
assisted us in crossing ye falls -
June 1. - [illegible] arrived at Skayes
ye long rapids about 8 miles -
Here put up the remaining part
of ye day

2. monday — about 11 — Clock — reached
Kanadasegea — where at ye
place a considerable number of
six Nations are already convened
in expectation of a general treaty —

8. L.D. preached to a considerable
assembly — about sixty white
people & near twice ye number
Indians of several nations —
men of Onondagas — Cayugas & Senekas
Saturday — I have come in thro'
14 ye week past — spent consider.
time in conversation with ye sagams. ye present
situation — & disposit. towards ye U.S. —

15 The white people & Indians of
ye different nations assembled for
ye worship ~~under~~ in the shade
of some large trees by ye lakeside
I discoursed to ym from 1 Tim. 6.6.
"But godliness &c" This is ye 2d
sermon ever preached upon ye
ground — speaking of prayer in

two Languages - necessarily lengthned out my discourse beyond what is usual - towards Evening the old Onondego Chief & two Senekas came to my quarters, to thank me for ye goods word wc I had spoken to ym yt day - expressg yr hearty wish, yt Indians might believe ym --

also several Indians, who formerly resided at onohoghquage & now live on Genesee River - one belonged to Mr Crosbys Congregn - these expressed yr joy with tears, on hearg ye G Jesus once more - it brought former days fresh to mind when yy heard ye glad sound from Sabbath to Sabb-~~th~~

these informed me, yt ~~both~~ they had kept up yr worship i G

in yr village most ye time-
since ye war — expressed an
earnest desire yt I would visit
this fall or next spring —

19 Friday have had several con-
ferences with ye Indians durg
ye week past — but find religs
matters cant be attended to to
no advantage till ye treaty is
over & other business is comple-
ted —

Recd an Invity from the Chiefs
on Buffalo Creek to remove
ye intended Council fire to said place
& requested particularly my
attendance —

NB. the Cross Lake lies due N & S.
10 ms in length - 2 1/2 wide -
from the outlet of † L - on the
west side - the first turn in ye
River - W. 10 d. S - 160 rds - |
160 rds W 25 deg S | 320 rds S 15 d W
320 rds S. W. | 320 r - W 10 d S {N. B. here
~~2~~ 2 1/2 wide
begin ye two Islands } [illegible] m. W. 10 d N.
passing ~~Island~~ | 1 m. N. 20 d. W. |
1 m. W. 10 d. N | ~~160~~ 1 m. rds W. ~~2 1/2~~ m W 4 d S
80 rds W 10 d. N. | 80 r. W 15 d. N. |
3 m. ~~2 m~~ W 40 d. N. | 1/2 m. W. 20 d N |
to ye Muschettoe place [illegible] out
let of Wiskon - then 1/2 m. W. 30 N.
NB here comes in a River
1/2 m. W - | 1/2 m. W - 20 deg S | 05
1 m. S. 25 d. W. | 160 rds S. 20 d. E |
a l. Bay N side wide
1 m. W. 25 S | 1/2 m. W. | 1/2 m. S. W.
2 m. - 40 d. N. NB. wide & a large
Island at ye right - 1 1/2 m wide ye R.
for ye whole of ye turn - & on ye N. side
many Islands

1/2 mi. W | 80 rods – W. 5 dg. S. |
80 rods, W. 20 dg. S. |
the long bay S. 10 dg. W. – 2 miles –
then 2 mi. more S. 15 dg. E. –
NB ye Salt Spg – & west a large
Island at ye west side and falls
in ye Kanandaigue outlet –
to ye Salt Spg – 1 mile S. 25 dg. W. |
then 1 1/2 mi. S. 15 dg. W | NB – 2 pleasant Island
on ye west – near 3/4 mile in leng. the
80 rds. S. W. to ye head of the Island. –
80 rd. S. W. from ye head of Island
here ye marsh is 4 mi. wide – |
160 rds. S. 10 dg. W. | 40 rds. S. |
3 miles from ye Islands to ye outlet
of Cayoga Lake – the last 3/4 mile
is S. 16 deg. E – |
From the outlet of Cayoga Lake
to the inlet of Kanadasegea 3 m. –
S. W. | & after entering ye Seneka
120 rds. N. 30 dg. W.

80 rd. N. 10 d. W. | 40 rd. N. 40. N

30 r. N 10 d. W | 40 rd. N. 40 W. |

70 rd. N. 45 d. W | 80 rd. W. 20 N. | 80 rd. W.

80 rd. W. 30 S | 80 r. S. 30 W |

60 r. S. 10 W | 40 r. S. 30 W | 60 r. S. 2 10

60 r. S. 20 W | 40 r. S. 15 W. |

80 r. W. 20 S strong water | 40 r. W |

to ye first falls — The course of

the falls S. W. 3/4 mile — then 80 r.

W. 20 d. S. | 40 r. S. 30 d. W |

40 r. W. 10 S | 80 r. W. | 80 r. W. 4 S.

80 r. W. 15 S | 120 r. W. 20 S. |

80 r. W. | Ell wear | 120 r. W

[illegible] r. N. | 60 r. W. 4 d. S | 40 r. W |

80 r. W. 5 S | 40 r. W | 80 r. N

35 W — Bound Island on ye south side

50 r. W — ye begining of ye Skayes

then

1/2 a mile of the rapids —

W. X degs. N. | — Then | 80 r. S. W

80 r. — W — 5 d. S. ~~AB~~ — an Island —

& head of the rapids —

120 W. 5 d. N. | 1 mile W 15 d. S

160 r. W | 80 r. W. 5° N. | 120 W 15 N |

creek on ye left

860 W — 10 d. S | 80 r. W | 80 r. W. 10 S |

40 r. W | 50 r. W. 10 N | 80 r. W. 30 S. |

40 r. W. 5 d. S | 40 r. W 10 N |

20 r W | 40 r W 10 S | 240 r S W |

240 r. S. W. | 80 r. W — 20 S. |

240 r. S. 30 W | 80 r. N. 80 W |

40 r. W | 15 r. — W. 40 d. N. |

80 r. N. 40 d. W |

Saturday June 20th — 12 o'Clock —
set out from Kanandasegea for Buffa-
loe Creek to attend a treaty wth ye Six Ny.
in company wth Dr Benton — Gilbert —
Dean — & a Mr Barton & Johnson
from sd place — also — also — a number
of ye Seneka Chiefs — & Monsr Debarge —
reached the lake called Kanandaca-
que — about 16 miles f Kanandasegea.
The first four miles passed thro' the
old fields — of ye ancient Seneka Town —
called Kanaghsasegea — then entered
a swamp, or low lands — thick timber'd
about 5 miles thro' — in the middle
of wh is good stream called in English
Flint Brook — after passing this
came to open land where was for-
merly a seneka settlet called Anaya —
thence most ye open land to ye lake
which is about 14 miles in length —
lies in a circular form — almost inter-
sected in ye middle by a point of land
on the west side — at ye south end
of ye lake, was formerly a small

Village called Kaaghcandogee—
south East is about 12 miles is ye
lake called Tegenyadahkton—
or crooked lake—which lies nearly
in ye form of an ~~em~~ ~~A~~ this — south
is is ye direct indian path—from
Kendaias town or south end
of Seneka Lake to Chenesseye—
by way ^ Kanigayen—.
this crooked lake enters or
empties its in ye South end of
Seneka Lake—a few miles north
west of ye head of sd Lake.—
NB—high lands at ye South end
of ye Kanandaiaga lake

21—L.D. our stay was ye ye day & the
way threating that it was concluded
best on ye whole to proceed on our Journey
& if poss ~~to~~ to reach the Village on the Chenesee
River called Kanawageas—about 30 miles nearly W.
about 9 oclock—got under way—
a little after sunset arrived at Kana-
wageas—a small village consisting only
of 8 houses—the inhabitants were distressed

for want of provision ye we'd procure no one single article is to lengthen out our provisions which began to be short -

in our rout ye day crossed four small streams of water - the one which was the outlet of ye lake called Skonyhsea which empties itself in ye outlet of Kanandaigue - ye creek is of considerable bigness - but not navigable about its confluence with ye Ck -

22 Monday - went down ye Sinecu Creek about 8 miles to where one Allen resides - formerly a small indian village - but long since deserted. A most beautiful situation - a fine large extent of flatts - At ye - a large creek emptys into ye Sinesea about a mile from Allen's - ~~NB~~ ye petrifying Spring - about 1 mile

23. Tuesday I rode to some ancient ruins of an Indian fort - including about 4 acres - the ditch appears to be about 8 feet wide & six deep - with [illegible] gates -

The ditch is drawn in a circular form on three sides - ye 4th is defended by a high bank - at ye fort which is a fine

stream - water - probably the bank
was secured by a stockade - as there
appears to a covered way from ye interior
to a bank - down to ye water -
some - of ye trees round ye ditch seem
to appear to 200 yr old -
[illegible] - about ½ a mile south of ye - upon
a greater eminence - is another
old fort less in size - but the ditch
deeper - & its situat more lofty -
Indian tradit says these were built
previous to ye joining of confederacy
of ye Mohawks - Onondagas - Oneidas
& Cayugas - & when ye were at war
with ye Missisagas - western Indians
round ye great lakes.

returned to Kanawaugas -
24 - wednesd set out on our journey
to Buffalo creek -
halted at ye creek - called ye many
falls - about 12 miles - rode most of ye
way over a barren shrub plain
next stage 12 miles - at ye fork of ye
Genesee Road - 12 miles -
maple & Beech - part swamps

rode about 2 miles furg & encamped
at ye place called Kaikorn-
on ye River Tanawande - which empti-
es into Erie outlet about 10 miles north
of the mouth of Buffaloe creek -

25

rode about 6 miles to ye open fields
& there breakfasted. this place is called
by ye Senekes Tegatai~~com~~nedaghgwe
The double fortified town -
There are ye remains of two ancient fortificy,
the ditch of one of wh I viewd, is now, near
six feet deep - they contain about 4 acres
each - & were placed at the two extremities
of ye town - which was mr. than 1 mile in
length - & situated upon very high ground -
a small run of living water circumscribed
the one half - the height affords a grand
prospect - more than 1000 acres now
clear -. near the northernmost fort
is ye remains of a funeral pile, raised
about six feet fr ye surface & abt. 20 feet
diameter - where were buried the slain
of ye Enemies of ye Senekas in a battle
yy had wt ye Western Indians -

by yͤ acct about 270 yrs ago –

from this place we rode over a fine tract of land for 6 or 7 miles – the timber, maple – beech – ash – walnut – Elm & Basswood – then came on to a barren white oak shrub plain – & one remark- barren spot of near 200 acres – & a steep hill on our right, iron bound bank in some places – near 40 feet perpen- dicular – this barren spot is covered wth small stones like lime stone – the winter green berries uncommonly large,

a small Lake at ye foot of ye mountain where Indians say resides a snake or dragon – wh often discorges balls of liquid fire – at the extremity of ye barren plain reached the Ta- nawanda River – crossed it on our way to Buffaloe –

NB – near this ancient funeral pile – the roads part – one leads to Niagara & the Buffaloe – NB – the lake – appear on which ye surface [illegible] raised the about 2 o'Clock halted on ye

other side of the Tunawanda
Creek - at a little distance wch
is ye remains of one ancient for-
tified town -
here while we halted & a little refresht
~~some curiosity~~ we were entertained wth
a curious sight - A black snake climbg
or crawlg up a tree in quest of some
young birds - wch we heard chirpg
in ye trunk of ye tree about 20 feet
from ye ground - The snake partly
twined about ye tree as she ascended making
a number of curves in Her body - When
she came up to where ye nest ~~[illegible]~~
ye young bird - raised her head in a lofty
manner - & looked ~~in~~ upon ye little harmless
& helpless creatures - wch perch'd - & then entered
ye cavity wth rapidity - we cut down ye tree
& rescued two of ye young - ye 3d was near
half down ye snakes throat - & not injured.
the snake was about 6 feet in length -
we then rode on about 5 miles thro'
a fine, fertile land - & well situated
wth a variety of fine timber.

when we left this rode thro' a considera
tract of open feilds & barren —
encamped at an old hunting house
at ye end of opengrounds — no sleep —
26 — friday set out early travelled
most of forenoon in ye rain — the knats
& muskitoes very troublesome —
about noon arrived at ye Cayoga
settlet on Buffaloe Creek — from thence
accompanied by a number of Indians —
down to ye Seneka settlet — on our
arrival here found 'em all assembled —
& a house prepared for our accommodatn
being first conducted there rested a
few minutes, when a message came
of ye Chiefs requiring our attendance
at ye council house
in Council — & read a congratulatory
address on our safe arrival — we were
conducted the council house by their
messenger — wch was crowded at one end
to excess — beside near 100 of young
warriors who were a-lying on ye
ground — having taken our seats
& lighted our pipes — the Cayoga
Chiefs called ye friendl ceremonies
&c.

in y^{e} name of six N^{s}
& addressed us in a very handsome
manner - & welcomed our arrival -
observed in y^{e} close of speech y^{t}
y^{e} chiefs were not all arrived & y^{t} y^{a}
were not ready to proceed to busi^{s} -
26. Saturday - called upon Capt Brant
Capt David &c.: of Mohawk tribe -
also - introduced to four Cherokee
Chiefs who are here on a visit -
also an interview wth several Chiefs.
27. L.D - - Col^{o}. Butler arrived -

Remem a wrapper, black, or yallow - for Sally

---

22 August 1788
paid H. Van Schaack Esqr
£3-17-5 indorsed on my note

May. 7ber
made made a payment to Mr.
Henry of Albany — of £6-7-0
Vid. his receipt —

---

also made a small payment
to Mr. Robinson & Kesselboom

---

engaged a pr. of new boots of
Mr Franingshaw — to be made
within one week — & delivered when
ever called for — paid down 60/ —
purchased a pr. of shoes — price 12/ —
not paid for

---

13. Schenectady May 13 — paid Mrs.
Peggy post — 18/ for a blanket —
bout of Mr. Post — last winter —

---

paid Mr Mazey — 9/ — for a
pr. of buckskin gloves which he
is to send to me, by Mr A. Schuyler.

travelling expences betwixt Stockbridge & albany lodgeing by ye way	0 - 7 - 6.
ferriage &c	0 - 0 - 9.
& at Albany - 18/6	0 - 18 - 6
at Schenectady	0 - 6 - 0
at Kanajoharry & falls	0 - 6 - 4
at German Flatts	0 - 2 - 0
at Capt Myers's	0 - 4 - 6.
at Fort Stanwix	0 - 4 - 6
Horsekeeping	0 - 3 - 0
NB paid Major Schuyler on half Johannes - Drawt -	2 : 4 : 10
at Oneida for fetchg my matrass & blankets	0 - 06 - 0
washing at Kanadasegea	0 - 8 - 0
1 qt wine	0 - 11 - 0
1 qt Rum	0 - 2 - 0
1 pt do - for sev Indians	0 - 1 - 2
at Buffaloe qt - provis & turnings 2 shirts	0 - 4 - 0
	3 10 - 0

Brought over	3-10-0
The use of my Matrass & Blanket the ones of which nearly worn out	0-18-
To four ~~three~~ days board at Kanadasegue	
The use of my horse ~~horse hire~~ & ~~chaise~~ - 112 miles from Albany to Fort Schuyler	1-17-4
the keep of horse at Fort Stanwix 8 weeks at 1/- oats 6/-	0-14-0
	£ 6-9-4
6 days allowed to return to Albany ~~at~~ ~~travelling~~ expenses	6-0-0
Washing & soap at Kanadasegue	0-4-0

July 26 - paid Mr Weaver, of Old Fort Schuyler 20/- being the whole of his demands upon me £1-0-0

paid 1 dol - for shoeing horse at by Mr Fancher

paid widdow Iyer all her demands

paid 1 dolr for Ferron to widdow Parkins

Saml Kirkland Missionary to the Oneida
Indians, of lawful age testifieth & saith, that
in July 1788, accompanied the Honble Oliver
Phelps Esqr. into the Country of the six Nation
with a view to hold a treaty with them - for
the purchase of lands, or extinguishing the
native claim to certain Lands, in the Mas-
sachusetts preemption right, so called. —
Said Kirkland, having previously to the
Journey, received an appointment from
the Legislature of the commonwealth of
Massachusetts to superintend at said treaty -
in which Act, provision was expressly made, that
the Superintendent should not be interested
~~directly~~ in the purchase of said lands —
directly or indirectly. - -
When arrived at Kanadasegea, Runners were
sent to the Genesseo, Allegheny & Buffaloe -
to invite the Indians to the proposed treaty at
Kanadasegea, which had been the place agreed
upon for that purpose, as said Kirkland was then
informed - - The Runners returned, after some con-
siderable time - & soon followed them a respectable
delegation, from ~~the~~ Buffaloe Creek & Genesseo,
particularly The Farmers Brother - Little Billy
& Skendiyoughquatte - - These remonstrated
against any treaty being held with the
five nations at Kanadasegea - that it was
not the place for public negotiations - that
there

that there would not be a full representation
of the five nations collected at Kanadasegea—
—they then urged that Buffaloe Creek was
the Council place,—that all matters of impor-
tance ought therefore to be transacted there
in the most public manner, & in full Council
—and said—on condition Mr Phelps would
go there they would be glad to see him & if
he came with proper Authority to tran-
sact about Lands—they would ~~there~~ talk
with him at that place"—Their proposal
was acceded to on the part of Mr. Phelps &
company—altho the distance was so great
& the travelling bad, they would repair to
Buffaloe Creek —— when arrived at the
Buffaloe—in full Council of the five nations
(nearly 500 present)—they welcomed Mr. Phelps
to their Capital in a very respectful & affectionate
address—toward the close, said—they had heard
by the voice of the Birds (which sometimes spoke
true) that he came with proper authority to
transact in any matters respecting lands—
they would be glad at a suitable time to know
what those powers were —but would have him rest himself the remaining part of the day
The next day, in full Council—his Commission
from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
was read, & interpreted by Mr. James Dean—
Mr. Kirklands appointment to superintend
at the treaty—was interpreted by Capt. Brant.

Kirklands deposition

No 17.

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Resolved That the ſum of Twenty thouſand Dollars, in addition to the fourteen thouſand dollars already appropriated, be appropriated for defraying the expences of the Treaties which been ordered, or which may be ordered to be held on the preſent year with the ſeveral Indian tribes in the Northern department, and for extinguiſhing the Indian claims, the whole of the ſaid Twenty thouſand dollars together with ſix thouſand Dollars of the ſaid fourteen thouſand dollars to be applied ſolely to the purpoſe of extinguiſhing Indian claims to the lands they have already ceded to the United States by obtaining regular conveyances for the ſame, and for extending a purchase beyond the limits hitherto fixed by Treaty; but that no part of the said Sums be applied for any purpoſe other than thoſe above mentioned.

On the Report of a Committee consisting of Mr. Dane, Mr. Irvine, Mr. S. M. Mitchell, Mr. Carrington and Mr. Brown to whom was referred a letter of the Secretary at War on a letter of the 14th of April from the Governor of the Western Territory Congreſs agreed to the following

nal

Additional Instructions to the Governor of the Territory of the United States Northwest of the River Ohio, relative to the Treaty to be held with the western Indians in pursuance of the Resolution of Congreſs paſsed in October last.

Sir,

An additional Sum of Twenty thousand dollars has been appropriated for the purpoſes of procuring a permanent peace with the Indian tribes with which you are authorised to hold a Treaty. This sum and six thousand dollars out of the fourteen heretofore appropriated for holding the said Treaty are particularly directed to be applied solely for the purpoſe of obtaining a boundary advantageous to the United States between them and the ſaid Indian tribes, and for further extinguishing by purchase Indian Titles in case it can be done on terms beneficial to the Union.

But it is not expected that any further purchase of lands will be made, unleſs on terms evidently advantageous to the United States, or that any part of the ſaid additional ſum will be expended, but in caſes apparently Neceſsary.

In fixing a boundary between the United States and the Indian tribes, inſtead of the East and West line mentioned in your inſtructions, you will endeavor to eſtablish an East and West line as far North as the Completion of the forty first degree of North latitude.

In your Negotiations with the Indians you will make immediate payments ſo far as you shall have monies in hand, but in case you shall find it Neceſsary to engage any considerable part of the ſaid additional ſum, you are to ſtipulate that the payments thereof be made in two or three equal annual inſtalments the first to be as late in the year 1789 as can be obtained.

Deed of 5 Nations
of Indians to
Phelps & Gorham
July 8, 1788 f £2,500

Certificate of
Samuel Kirkland

Supplementary of Mohawks,
Onondagas, Cayugas & Tuscaroras
4th August, 1789, relinquishing
Share of Consideration money
(of $5,000), but retaining their
Share of $500 Annuity

Return to GEO. S. CONOVER,
GENEVA, N. Y.,
If not delivered within 10 days.

To all People to whom these present shall come, greeting: Know ye, that we, the sachems, chiefs, and warriors, of the Five Nations of Indians, for, and in consideration of, the sum of two thousand one hundred pounds, lawful money of the state of New York, paid, and received by us, to our full satisfaction, of Oliver Phelps, of Granville, in the county of Hampshire, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Esquire, and Nathaniel Gorham, of Charlestown, in the county of Middlesex, in the Commonwealth aforesaid, and of which we do hereby release and discharge them, the said Oliver and Nathaniel; and particularly, in consideration of the covenant and engagement made and executed by the said Oliver Phelps, in behalf of the said Nathaniel and himself, by deed of even date with these presents, have given, granted, ceded, bargained, sold, alienated, conveyed and confirmed, and by these presents do hereby give, grant, cede, bargain, sell, alien, convey, and confirm, unto them, the said Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham, and to their heirs and assigns, forever, all that territory or country of land lying within the state of New York, contained within, and being parcel of, the lands and territory, the right of pre-emption of the soil whereof, from the native Indians, was ceded by the state of New York aforesaid, to the Commonwealth aforesaid, by deed of cession, executed at Hartford, by commissioners for that purpose, on the Sixteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-six, within the following limits and bounds, that is to say: Beginning in the north boundary line of the State of Pennsylvania, in the parallel of forty-two degrees north latitude, at a point distant eighty-two miles west from the northeast corner of Pennsylvania, on Delaware river, as the said

1 Cughin

boundary line hath been run and marked by the commissioners appointed by the States of New York and Pennsylvania, respectively; and from said point or place of beginning, running west upon said line to a meridian which will pass through that corner or point of land made by the confluence of the Shanahasgwaikon creek so called with the waters of the Genesee river; thence, running north along the said meridian to the corner or point last mentioned; thence, northwardly along the waters of the said Genesee river, to a point two miles north of Shanawageras village, so called; thence, running in a direction due west, twelve miles; thence, running a direction northwardly, so as to be twelve miles distant from the most westward bends of said Genesee river, to the shore of the Ontario lake; thence, eastwardly along the shores of said lake, to a meridian which will pass through the first point or place of beginning above mentioned; thence, south along said meridian to the first point or place of beginning, aforesaid; together with all and singular the woods, houses, streams, rivers, ponds, lakes, upon, within, and in any wise appertaining to, said territory; to have and to hold the above granted and bargained premises, together with all the appurtenances and privileges thereunto belonging, or in any wise appertaining, to them the said Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham, and to their heirs and assigns forever. And we, the underwritten sachems, chiefs, and warriors, do hereby covenant and engage, to and with the said Oliver Phelps, Nathaniel Gorham, and their heirs, executors, and administrators, that we will warrant and defend the above granted and bargained premises to them, said Oliver, Nathaniel, and their heirs and assigns, against all claims whatsoever.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals, this eighth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight.

Mohawks.

Hendrink Tekarihogea,
Jos. Brant and Thayendanegeo,
Thomas Shasennowane.

Oneidas.

Kanawagenton,
Shoratowane,
Oghnaongoghton.

Onondagoes.

Yonghwenjowanen,
Sharonejowanen,

Otkwentageghte,
Kagontenayen,
Araghkwente,
Onereraghhere,
Kashighstoghare,
Kayendakhengh.

Cayogas.

Tekaenyon,
Oghniokwenton,
Teyothoreghgongh,
Shoheres,
Karonghyagetea,
Ojageghte,
Otstenragongh,
Tekaraghgogh,
Tewaghtaghgote,
Aghshigwanesen,
Aristatsi,
Shagoyeghwatha,
Gonghsanigonte,
Kanentagonra,
Karenhoton,
Atyaseronn,
Tehaweanokee,
Tetsinontawerhogh,
Teghhanenharengtonghs,
Shoyonwesee,
Teghaghsharanegeaghs,
Tewataseriyage.

The Female Governesses, or Chief Women.

Ononghsontyon,
Karaghgosene,
Karoghtonghs,
Kawaghtyeninghtha,
Kanonnisen,
Gonwaghsennawi,
Kaghhearenghtha.

Senecas.

Teyorenhagwente,
Oghnenrayewaghs,
Karontowaningh,
Shotshonwaas,
Skentyoghgwadigh,
Tekaghsakatste,
Shonoghsowane,
Shigwarentonghkwi,
Kanaase,
Tewatogharanegea,
Jonondaweaghtaghsi,
Shagoyeghwatha,
Kayentwaghgegh,
Shorihowane,
Karonghyagers,
Tekahonwaghshea,
Arajongwaghs,
Tsiskekek,
Shoghsharowane,
Ratsirageron,
Osawetsrough,
Aonghwenjayehte,
Teghonegwenghsohane.

Signed, sealed, and delivered in the presence of

John Butler, Deputy Agent,
Samuel Kirkland, Superintendent on behalf of Massachusetts.
James Deane, Interpreter,
Elisha Lee,
Jos. Brandt,
Benj. Barton,
David Smith,
Ezl. Scott.

Pursuant to a resolution of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, passed March the 30th, 1788, I have attended a full and general treaty of the Five Nations of Indians, at the chief village in their territory, on Buffalo Creek, alias Teyoheghscolea, when the foregoing instrument or deed of conveyance, made to the Honorable Nathaniel Gorham, and Oliver Phelps, Esqrs. of a certain part of the lands belonging to the said Five Nations, the description and boundaries thereof being particularly specified in the same, was duly executed, signed, sealed, and delivered, in my presence, by the sachems, chiefs, and warriors, of the above mentioned Five Nations, being fairly and properly understood and transacted by all the parties of Indians concerned, and declared to be done to their universal satisfaction and content.

And I do therefore certify and approve of the same.

Samuel Kirkland,

Missionary, Superintendent in behalf of the Commonwealth of massachusetts.

Indian Treaty of the Five Nations (or Deed) made to Phelps and Gorham
signed at Buffalo Creek, July 8, 1788.

To all People to whom these presents shall come, greeting: Know ye, that we, the sachems, chiefs, and warriors, of the Five Nations of Indians, for, and in consideration of, the sum of two thousand one hundred pounds, lawful money of the State of New York, paid, and received by us, to our full satisfaction, of Oliver Phelps, of Granville, in the county of Hampshire, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Esquire, and Nathaniel Gorham, of Charlestown, in the county of Middlesex, in the Commonwealth aforesaid, and of which we do hereby release and discharge them, the said Oliver and Nathaniel; and particularly, in consideration of the covenant and engagement made and executed by the said Oliver Phelps, in behalf of the said Nathaniel and himself, by deed of even date with these presents, have given, granted, ceded, bargained, sold, aliened, conveyed, and confirmed, and by these presents do hereby give, grant, cede, bargain, sell, alien, convey, and confirm, unto them, the said Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham, and to their heirs and assigns, forever, all that territory or country of land lying within the State of New York, contained within, and being parcel of, the lands and territory, the right of preemption of the soil whereof, from the native Indians, was ceded by the State of New York aforesaid, to the Commonwealth aforesaid, by deed of cession, executed at Hartford, by commissioners for that purpose, on the sixteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-six, within the following limits and bounds, that is to say: Beginning in the north boundary line of the State of Pennsylvania, in the parallel of forty-two degrees north latitude, at a point distant eighty two miles west from the northeast corner of Pennsylvania, on Delaware river, as the said boundary line hath been run and marked by the commissioners appointed by the States of New York and Pennsylvania, respectively; and from said point or place of beginning, running west upon said line to a meridian which will pass through that corner or point of land made
Canaseraga - by the confluence of the Shanahasgwaikoreehi (so called) with the waters of the Genesee river; thence, running north along the said meridian to the corner or point last mentioned; thence, northwardly along the waters of the said Genesee river, to a point two miles north of Shanawag eras village, so called; thence, running in a direction due
Canawagus
west, twelve miles; thence, running a direction northwardly, so as to be twelve miles distant from the most westward bends of said Genesee river, to the shore of the Ontario lake; thence, eastwardly along the shores of said lake, to a meridian which will pass through the first point or place of beginning abovementioned; thense, south along said meridian to the first point or place of beginning, aforesaid; together with all and singular the woods, houses, streams, rivers, ponds, lakes, upon, within, and in any wise appertaining to, said territory: to have and to hold the above granted and bargained premises, together with all the appurtenances and privileges thereunto belonging, or in anywise appertaining, to them the said Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham, and to their heirs and assigns forever. And we, the underwritten sachems, chiefs, and warriors, do hereby covenant and engage, to and with the said Oliver Phelps, Nathaniel Gorham, and their heirs, executors, and administrators, that we will warrant and defend the above granted and bargained premises to them, said Oliver, Nathaniel, and their heirs and assigns, against all claims whatsoever.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals, this eighth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight.

(Signed with a seal and a mark, by sixty Indians of the Five Nations, by seven Female Governesses, or Chief Women)
Also by seven witnesses.

Copied from American State Papers, Vol.4, (Indian Affairs, p.210-11.

To all People to whom these presents shall come; Greeting. Know Ye That We the Sachems Chiefs and Warriors of the five Nations of Indians for and in consideration of the Sum of two Thousand one hundred Pounds lawful Money of the State of New York paid and received by us to our full satisfaction, Of Oliver Phelps of Granville in the County of Hampshire and Commonwealth of Maſsachusetts Esqr. and Nathaniel Gorham of Charlestown in the County of Middlesex in the Commonwealth aforesaid, and of which We do hereby Release and discharge them the said Oliver and Nathaniel; and particularly in consideration of the Covenant and engagement, made and executed by the said Oliver Phelps in behalf of the said Nathaniel and himself, by Deed of even date with these presents have given, granted, ceded, bargained, sold, aliened, conveyed and confirmed, and by these presents do hereby, give, grant, cede, bargain, sell Alien, convey and confirm, unto them the said Oliver Phelps, and Nathaniel Gorham, and to their heirs and Aſsigns forever. All that Territory or Country of Land lying within the State of New York, contained within, and being parcel of the Lands and Territory the right of preemption, of the Soil whereof, from the Native Indians, was ceded by the State of New York aforesaid, to the Commonwealth aforesaid, by Deed of Ceſsion, executed at Hartford, by Commiſsioners for that Purpose on the sixteenth day of September, in the Year of Our Lord, One thousand seven hundred and eighty six, within the following limits and bounds, that is to say. Beginning in the North boundary line of the State of Pensylvania, in the parallel of forty two degrees North latitude, at a point distant eighty two Miles West from the North East corner of Pensylvania on Delaware River, as the said Boundary line hath been run and marked by the Commiſsioners appointed by the States of New York and Pennsylvania respectively and from said point or Place of beginning, running West upon said line, to a Meridian, which will paſs through that Corner or point of Land made by the confluence of the Shanahasgwaikon-reeke (so called) with the Waters of the Genesee River, thence running North along the said Meridian, to the corner or point last mentioned; thence Northwardly along the Waters of the said Genesee River, to a point two miles North of Shanawageras Village so called, thence running in a direction due West twelve Miles, thence running a direction Northwardly, so as to be twelve miles distant from the most Westward bends of said Genesee River, to the shores of the Ontario Lake; thence Eastwardly along the shores of said Lake to a meridian which will paſs through the first point or place of beginning above mentioned, thence South along said meridian to the first point or Place of beginning aforesaid — together with all and singular the Woods Houses, streams, Rivers, Ponds, Lakes, upon, within and in any Wise appertaining to said Territory To have and to hold the above granted and bargained premises, together with all the Appurtenances and priviledges thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining, to them the said Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham and to their Heirs and Aſsigns forever — And We the underwritten Sachems, Chiefs and Warriors do hereby Covenant and engage to and with the said Oliver Phelps, Nathaniel Gorham, and their Heirs, Executors and Administrators, that We will Warrant and defend the above granted and bargained premiſses to them the said Oliver, Nathaniel and their Heirs and Aſsigns against all claims whatsoever. — In Witneſs whereof We have hereunto set our hands and seals this eighth day of July in the Year of Our Lord One thousand seven hundred and Eighty eight.

Signed Sealed and
delivered in the presence of
John Butler Dep. Agt
Saml. Kirkland
Superintendent in behalf
of Maſsachusetts
James Dean
Interpreter
Elisha Lee
Jos. Brant
Ben Barton
David Smith
Ezl Scott

Mohawks
Hendrick Tekarehogea and a seal & mark
Jos Brant Thayendanegea & a Seal & mark
Thomas Thasonnowane & a seal & mark

Oneidas
Kennawagenton & a seal & mark
Shoralowane & a seal & mark
Oghnaongoghton & a seal & mark

Onondagoes
Yongkwinjowanen & a Seal & mark
Shoronyowanen and a seal & mark
Otkwentageghte & a Seal & mark
Kagontinayen & a seal & mark
Araghkwente & a seal & a mark
Onerwagh[illegible] & a seal & a mark
Kashighstoghare & a seal & a mark
Kaiyndakkhengh & a seal & a mark

Cayugas
Tekaenyon and a seal & a mark
Oghnickwenton and a Seal & a mark
Teyothorenghgengh and a Seal & a mark
Thokeres and a Seal & a mark
Karonghgaetea and a seal & mark
Ojageghte and a Seal & a mark
Otstenragongh and a seal & a mark
Tekaraghgegh and a Seal & a mark
Tewaghtaghgota and a seal & a mark
Aghshigwanesene & a seal and a mark

The female Governesses or Chief Women
Ononghsontyon & a seal & a mark
Karaghgosere & a seal & a mark
Kahoghtonghs & a seal & a mark
Kawaghtyenenghtha & a seal & mark
Kanonnisen & a seal & a mark
Gonwaghsennawi & a seal & a mark
Kaghkearenghtha & a seal & a mark

Cayugas
Aristatse and a Seal & a mark
Shagoyeghwatha and a Seal & a mark
Gonghsanigonte & a seal & a mark
Kanintagonra and a seal & a mark
Karenhoton & a seal & a mark
Alyasesonn & a seal & a mark
Tehawednokee & a seal & a mark
Tetsinontaeenhogh and a seal & a mark
Teghkanenkarentonghs & a seal & a mark
Shoyonwesee & a seal & a mark
Teghaghsharanegeaghs & a seal & a mark
Tewataseriyage & a seal & a mark
Teyorinhagwente and a Seal & a mark

Senekas
Oghnenrayewaghs & a seal & a mark
Karontowanengh & a seal & a mark
Tholstenwaas & a seal & a mark
Skentyeghgwadigh & a seal & a mark
Te Kaghsakatste & a seal & a marke
Shonoghsowane & a seal & a mark
Shegwarentonghkwi & a seal & a mark
Kanaavis and a Seal & a mark
Tewatogharanegea & a seal & a mark
Jonondaweaghtaghsi & a seal & a mark
Shagoyeghwatha & a seal & a mark
Kayentwaghgegh and a Seal & a mark
Shorikowane and a seal & a marke
Karonghyagera & a seal & a mark
Tekahonwaghskea & a seal & a mark
Arajengwaghs & a seal & a mark
Tsiskekek & a seal & a mark
Shoghsharowane & a seal & a marke
Ratsirageron & a seal & a mark
OSawetorongh & a seal & a mark
Aonghwenjageghte & a seal & a mark
Teghonegwenghsohane & a seal & a marke

Pursuant to a Resolution of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Maſsachusetts paſsed March 30th 1788 I have attended a full and general Treaty of the five Nations of Indians at the Chief Village in their Territory on Buffaloe Creek alias Teyohegh scolea when the foregoing instrument, or Deed of Conveyance; made to the Honble Nathaniel Gorham and Oliver Phelps Esqrs of a certain part of the Lands belonging to the said five Nations — the description and boundaries thereof being particularly specified in the same, was duly executed, signed, sealed & delivered in my Presence by the Sachems, Chiefs & Warriors of the above mentioned five Nations - being fairly and properly understood and transacted by all the Parties of Indians concerned - and declared to be done to their universal satisfaction and Content - And I do therefore Certify & approve of the same —

Sam.l Kirkland Miss.y
Superintendant in behalf of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

---

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

I Henry Alline Notary and Tabellion Publick by lawful Authority, duly admitted and sworn, dwelling and Practicing in Boston, within said Commonwealth, Do hereby Certifie all whom it may concern that the foregoing Instrument or Deed of Conveyance, and Caption thereon, are true Copies from the originals, which were carefully examined and compared by me the said Notary: Thus done at Boston aforesaid this twentieth day of October, In the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Ninety.

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my Notarial Seal

Seal

Henry Alline Not.y Pub.c 1790

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

By His Excellency John Hancock Esq.r Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Seal

I do hereby certify that Henry Alline is a Notary Publick within and for the County of Suffolk in the said Commonwealth duly constituted and Sworn and that to his Acts and attestations as on this Paper, full faith and Credit is and ought to be given both in and out of Court. In testimony whereof I have caused the Public Seal of the Commonwealth aforesaid to be hereto affixed this twentieth day of October Anno Domini 1790 and in the fifteenth Year of the Independance of the United States of America

John Hancock

By His Excellency's Command
John Avery jun.r Secretary

Specimens of Conveyances of
Iroquois Lands,
Presented to Henry O'Reilly,
By Thomas, son of Robt. Morris.
with a specimen of other papers, among "Morris' deeds to Genesee lands" [illegible]

This is the form of the Agreement whereby Phelps & Gorham (grantees of the Pre-emption Right from Massachusetts) purchased the Indian title to lands between Seneca lake & Genesee river. — H.O'R.

A Copy of the Indian Deed for the Genesee Lands

5

Presented to me, with other papers, by Thomas, son of Robt. Morris, along with the Memoir about Western New York } Henry O'Rielly

☞ This account of the "Purchase & Expenses" of the Genesee Lands", was probably rendered when Phelps & Gorham (original purchasers from the Indians, under the Pre-Emption Right of Massachusetts) were negotiating a sale to Robt. Morris of a large part of the tract to which the *Indian* title was thus extinguished, between Seneca Lake & the Genesee River.

☞ The tract between the Genesee & Niagara Rivers or Lake Erie, about four millions of acres, was bo't (or, rather, the Pre-Emption Right thereto) from Massachusetts *direct* by S. Ogden as Agent for Robert Morris, Phelps & Gorham having been compelled to relinquish to that State all claims under the Contract beyond the ~~tract~~ portion of the territory to which the Indian title had been extinguished by them — viz. the portion between Seneca Lake & Genesee River, a part of which Robt. Morris bo't from them. (See explanations elsewhere.)

Henry O'Rielly

Dr. . . Purchace & Expences of Genesee =

	£	s	d
To Cash paid the Government (of Massachusetts) for Preemptive right of	31,000	–	
" Extinguishing the Native Right including presents made the Chiefs and other expences up to August 1788	4,309	–	–
" a Principal that will make an annual Interest of 500 Dolls.	2,500	–	–
" two Years Rent paid the Indians	300	–	
" sundry expences surveying, exploring selling Lands, cutting Roads, Treating with Indians &c.a since 1788 as ꝑ Account	4910	17	9
" Esquire Walkers bill surveying &c.a in 1788. . .	1991	11	8
" my Services for three Years including the * Expences of my House, Postage of letters &c.a	1,500	–	–
" an allowance made our Bondsmen.	6500	–	
" Mr. Gorham's bill of Expences and his Services for three Years	1,500		
" sundries on Accounts not settled say . . .	787	–	–
" sundry expences for assistance and expence when treating with the Government in 1790 and 1791 say.	1,572	–	–
" two Shares to Butler			
	56870	9	5

(* This account was evidently drawn up by Mr. Phelps.)

This account is not dated, probably runs from 1787 to 1790 – about the close of [illegible] latter year, [illegible] from Phelps & Gorham a large part of [illegible] territory [illegible] Seneca Lake & Gene[illegible] [illegible] (in 1788) [illegible] 1791 [illegible] from the State of Massachusetts the [illegible]

Lands in account with Sales. . . . . Cr.

By Sales of sundry Towns &c.a as ℘ account . . £	89,209.	2.	11
" Lands reserved as ℘ account			

To all People to whom these present shall come, greeting: Know ye, that we, the sachems, chiefs, and warriors, of the Five Nations of Indians, for, and in consideration of, the sum of two thousand one hundred pounds, lawful money of the state of New York, paid, and received by us, to our full satisfaction, of Oliver Phelps, of Granville, in the county of Hampshire, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Esquire, and Nathaniel Gorham, of Charlestown, in the county of Middlesex, in the Commonwealth aforesaid, and of which we do hereby release and discharge them, the said Oliver and Nathaniel; and particularly, in consideration of the covenant and engagement made and executed by the said Oliver Phelps, in behalf of the said Nathaniel and himself, by deed of even date with these presents, have given, granted, ceded, bargained, sold, alienated, conveyed and confirmed, and by these presents do hereby give, grant, cede, bargain, sell, alien, convey, and confirm, unto them, the said Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham, and to their heirs and assigns, forever, all that territory or country of land lying within the state of New York, contained within, and being parcel of, the lands and territory, the right of pre-emption of the soil whereof, from the native Indians, was ceded by the state of New York aforesaid, to the Commonwealth aforesaid, by deed of cession, executed at Hartford, by commissioners for that purpose, on the Sixteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-six, within the following limits and bounds, that is to say: Beginning in the north boundary line of the State of Pennsylvania, in the parallel of forty-two degrees north latitude, at a point distant eighty-two miles west from the northeast corner of Pennsylvania, on Delaware river, as the said boundary line hath been run and marked by the commissioners appointed by the States of New York and Pennsylvania, respectively; and from said point or place of beginning, running west upon said line to a meridian which will pass through that corner or point of land made by the confluence of the Shanahasgwaikon creek so called with the waters of the Genesee river; thence, running north along the said meridian to the corner or point last mentioned; thence, northwardly along the waters of the said Genesee river, to a point two miles north of Shanawageras village, so called; thence, running in a direction due west, twelve miles; thence, running a direction northwardly, so as to be twelve miles distant from the most westward bends of said Genesee river, to the shore of the Ontario lake; thence, eastwardly along the shores of said lake, to a meridian which will pass through the first point or place of beginning above mentioned; thence, south along said meridian to the first point or place of beginning, aforesaid; together with all and singular the woods, houses, streams, rivers, ponds, lakes, upon, within, and in any wise appertaining to, said territory; to have and to hold the above granted and bargained premises, together with all the appurtenances and privileges thereunto belonging, or in any wise appertaining, to them the said Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham, and to their heirs and assigns forever. And we, the underwritten sachems, chiefs, and warriors, do hereby covenant and engage, to and with the said Oliver Phelps, Nathaniel Gorham, and their heirs, executors, and administrators, that we will warrant and defend the above granted and bargained premises to them, said Oliver, Nathaniel, and their heirs and assigns, against all claims whatsoever.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals, this eighth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight.

Mohawks.

Hendrink Tekarihogea,
Jos. Brant and Thayendanegeo,
Thomas Shasennowane.

Oneidas.

Kanawagenton,
Shoratowane,
Oghnaongoghton.

Onondagoes.

Yonghwenjowanen,
Sharonejowanen,

Otkwentageghte,
Kagontenayen,
Araghkwente,
Onereraghhere,
Kashighstoghare,
Kayendakhengh.

Cayogas.

Tekaenyon,
Oghniokwenton,
Teyothoreghgongh,
Shoheres,
Karonghyagetea,
Ojageghte,
Otstenragongh,
Tekaraghgogh,
Tewaghtaghgote,
Aghshigwanesen,
Aristatsi,
Shagoyeghwatha,
Gonghsanigonte,
Kanentagonra,
Karenhoton,
Atyaseronn,
Tehaweanokee,
Tetsinontawerhogh,
Teghhanenharengtonghs,
Shoyonwesee,
Teghaghsharanegeaghs,
Tewataserivage.

The Female Governesses, or Chief Women.

Ononghsontyon,
Karaghgosene,
Karoghtonghs,
Kawaghtyeninghtha,
Kanonnisen,
Gonwaghsennawi,
Kaghhearenghtha.

Senecas.

Teyorenhagwente,
Oghnenrayewaghs,
Karontowaningh,
Shotshonwaas,
Skentyoghgwadigh,
Tekaghsakatste,
Shonoghsowane,
Shigwarentonghkwi,
Kanaase,
Tewatogharanegea,
Jonondaweaghtaghsi,
Shagoyeghwatha,
Kayentwaghgegh,
Shorihowane,
Karonghyagers,
Tekahonwaghshea,
Arajongwaghs,
Tsiskekek,
Shoghsharowane,
Ratsirageron,
Osawetsrough,
Aqnghwenjayehte,
Teghonegwenghsohane.

Signed, sealed, and delivered in the presence of

John Butler, Deputy Agent,
Samuel Kirkland, Superintendent on
behalf of Massachusetts.
James Deane, Interpreter,
Elisha Lee,
Jos. Brandt,
Benj. Barton,
David Smith,
Ezl. Scott.

Pursuant to a resolution of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, passed March the 30th, 1788, I have attended a full and general treaty of the Five Nations of Indians, at the chief village in their territory, on Buffalo Creek, alias Teyocheghscolea, when the foregoing instrument or deed of conveyance, made to the Honorable Nathaniel Gorham, and Oliver Phelps, Esqrs. of a certain part of the lands belonging to the said Five Nations, the description and boundaries thereof being particularly specified in the same, was duly executed, signed, sealed, and delivered, in my presence, by the sachems, chiefs, and warriors, of the above mentioned Five Nations, being fairly and properly understood and transacted by all the parties of Indians concerned, and declared to be done to their universal satisfaction and content.

And I do therefore certify and approve of the same.

Samuel Kirkland,

Missionary, Superintendent in behalf of the Commonwealth of massachusetts.

Supplementary to Phelps and Gorham's Treaty of Buffalo Creek.

We the sachems, chiefs, and warriors of the Mohawk, Onondago, Cuyahuga, and Tuscarora nations, for ourselves, and in behalf of the four nations aforesaid, have heard read and explained, in public council at this place, the papers passed between Oliver Phelps, Esq., and the Five Nations of Indians, in full and public council, at our great council fire, at Buffalo Creek in July, 1788; and find said papers conformable to the agreement then and there made, between said Phelps and the said Five Nations, and do hereby ratify and confirm said agreement, as being fairly and properly done, agreeable to the ancient customs of our forefathers; and having given up to the Seneca nation, our several proportions of the payment now due and offered to the said Five Nations by said Phelps, in a just and proper manner, in a full council of the Five Nations, viz: Two thousand five hundred dollars in cash and two thousand five hundred dollars value in goods, we hereby quit all claims, right, title, or demand whatsoever, to all that certain tract, parcel, land, and territory, purchased from the Five Nations, by said Phelps, agreeable to the deeds given him, the said Phelps, by the Five Nations aforesaid, at Buffalo Creek; and to all moneys, goods, or other payments whatsoever, due by said Phelps for said lands, except always reserving our just share and proportion of five hundred dollars, the annual rent to be paid on said lands forever.

Given under our hands and seals at Canandaigua this 4th day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine.

Sharonyewanen,

Kagondenayen,

Tchodageranden,

Ojageghte,

Karonyageten,

Skagoyeghwatha,

Tewaghtagote;

Tekaraghke,

Otstenragongh,

Karonghyontye,

Thayendanegea.

COPY OF ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPT AGREEMENT GIVEN BY OLIVER PHELPS TO THE FIVE NATIONS, at Buffalo Creek, July 9, 1788.

To all People to whom These Presents shall come greeting

Know Ye that I Oliver Phelps of Granville in the County of Hampshire and Commonwealth of Massachusetts Esquire, in consideration that the Sachems, chiefs and warriors, of the Five Nations of Indians, have by deed of even date with these presents, ceded granted bargained sold and conveyed to the Honorable Nathaniel Gorham & myself a certain tract or parcel of Territory included within the Massachusetts right of pre-emption so called, lying and being within the State of New York, the particular lines and boundaries whereof may be seen in said deed, reference thereunto being had, have in behalf of the Honorable Nathaniel Gorham, and myself, and of our heirs executors and administrators, covenanted, promised and agreed and do hereby covenant, promise & agree, to and with the aforementioned Sachems, chiefs, and Warriors of the five Nations, their heirs, successors, or representatives, in the same line or office to pay to them or to their agent superintendent or attorney, the sum of two hundred pounds lawful money of the state of New York, the one half whereof to be in cattle at a reasonable appraisement, the other half in silver and gold coined, and payment to be made on the fourth day of July which shall be in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety, and to pay them yearly and every year, the same sums of two hundred pounds, the one half in cattle, the other half in gold and silver, on each and every fourth day of July, annually forever thereafter, to ensure to the use benefit and behalf of the said five Nations. - Furthermore I do hereby covenant, promise and engage, to and with the said Sachems, Chiefs and Warriors of the said five Nations that the people of the said Nations may and shall continue to have and enjoy the right, benefit and advantage of hunting & fishing upon the land and territory so bargained & sold as above mentioned so long as the same border shall continue unimproved and uncultivated. - To the performance whereof I do hereby bind myself my heirs executors and administrators firmly by these presents. - To witness hereby I have herewith set my hand and seal this ninth day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty eight.

Oliver Phelps

Signed Sealed and
Delivered in presence of
John Butler
Sam'l Kirkland
Jos. Brant

To the above annual payments as agreed
to be paid at the north end of the
Kanadaraguen Lake

Copied from original MS in the Ontario County
Historical Society. C [illegible] A-1

The MS Agreement by which Phelps and Gorham agreed to pay the Indians an annuity of 200 pounds - one-half in cattle and one-half in gold and silver for the Indian rights to the tract extending from Seneca Lake to the Genesee River, a tract estimated to contain 2,600,000 acres. Phelps gave the above agreement for the annuity and the Indians gave a deed which is referred to in this MS. The back is covered with endorsements of payments of the annuity, signed by various persons.

475/1

Letter –
July 5th 1788 – Govr. W: territory
June 16th – do – Ranking Wilson –
June 23d – do – Sapatlan. ctg
to Col. Martin —

Most obedt. Servt. –

War-Office, 18th July 1788.

Sir,

I have the honor to tranſmit to your Excellency, the copy of a letter from the Governor of the Weſtern territory, dated at Fort Pitt the 5th of July 1788, together with ſome information from Meſs. Rankin & Wilſon.

Conceiving it of great importance that the Governor ſhould have, as early as poſsible, the Act of Congreſs of July 2nd 1788 — I forwarded it to him by expreſs, and moſt probably he is at this time in poſseſsion of it.

I have alſo encloſed the copy of a letter to Colonel Joſeph Martin, informing him of his appointment as "Indian Agent to the Cherokees, which he has moſt probably received, as His Excellency the Governor of Virginia, to whom it was encloſed has informed me in a letter of the 3d instant, that the packet to Colonel Martin had been received, and forwarded by a ſafe, and direct opportunity.

I have the honor to be, with the highest reſpect
Your Excellencys,
Moſt obedt. Servt. — H Knox

His Excellency
The Preſident of Congreſs.

Letter 18 July 1788

Secy at War —

read 18 July 1788 —

transmitting - letter -

July 5th 1788 Govr [illegible]

June 16th - do [illegible] to

Govr & Superintendent.

June 29. 1788 copy of Secy at War

letter to Col. Martin —

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Copy of a letter from the Governor of the Western Territory to the Secretary at War dated

Pittsburgh July 5th 1788.

Sir

Since I had the honor to drop you a hasty line by General Irwine, with the latest intelligence then from the Indian Country. Genl. Butler has received a letter from the persons sent to invite the Indians dated the 14th of June a Copy of which I now enclose.

It is not a little extraordinary that a meeting which was desired with so much earnestneſs by the Savages, should be attended with with so great delay on their part after being consented to by Congreſs — I suspect indeed that conceſsion has a little embarraſsed them — they had probably been led to believe that their request would not be complied with, and were determined on War, and tho that is an event some of the Nations, particularly the Wyandots and part of the

Delawares would wish to prevent, it is certainly ardently desired by many others; and I am far from being sanguine in the hope that the Commiſsioners will have it in their power to prevent it.

The Western tribes have been so ſucceſsful in their depredations on the Ohio River— their ſettlements are so distant and their country so difficult, they imagine themselves perfectly safe; and as by these incursions they gratify at once their paſsions of avarice and revenge, and their desire for spiritous liquors, every boat carrying more or leſs of that commodity, few of them may be expected to attend; nor are they to be much depended on should they attend generally.— at this time however even a hollow peace, if better cannot be ſecured, is very much to be wished. The confusion that seems to prevail amongst the different tribes, might poſsibly be improved into a rupture, if the United States had proper persons amongst them, or that any of the Nations had much confidence in us, but neither of these is the case, nor do I think it ever will be the case. — Our settlements are extending themselves so fast on every quarter where they can be extended — Our pretentions to the country they inhabit has been made known to them in so unequivocal a manner, and the consequences are so certain and so dreadful to them, that there is little probability of there ever being any cordiality between us — The Idea of being ultimately obliged to abandon their country rankles in their minds, and our British Neighbours at the same time that they deny the cession of Country made by them, suffer them not to forget for a moment the claim that is founded upon it. —

Any Opportunity that may present itself either to sow the seeds of discord among them, or to cultivate a good understanding with them will be embraced, if it can be done without committing the United States. — There is another reason why the Indians have been so tardy and undecided about their meeting which has been supplied by the Governm of New York — It may not be very prop for me to animadvert on the conduct of that or any Government; but it surely wa very improper to call the six Nations to a meeting in that State, and as I have understood for State purposes at the very time they had been called to a different p of the country for general purposes, and in which that State as a member of the Un was equally concerned; and no meeting is of much consequence without these nation — It has distracted them very much — they complain of it and say " they are called here and they are called there — One say here is the great Council Fire and to this you must come — another tells them there is the great Council Fire and there they must go, ~~and there they must go~~ and a third tells them it is lighted up in a

there

third place (that I understand is the land company that has been formed in that State to take leases of them) and they know not which to do, or whom to beleive, they feel themselves like drunken Men reeling from ſide to ſide and unable to fix them=ſelves any where." and as they are naturally I had like to have ſaid, not altogether unjustly, jealous of us. it has at this time encreased that natural jealousy.

It seems however they are now on their way, and may be expected ere long.

I have had the Provisions at the place appointed for a conſiderable time with a ſmall party to take care of them, and a person to ſpeak with any parties that might arrive: but these encrease the expences.

Tomorrow I ſhall ſet out my=ſelf but ſhall not go farther than the Muskingum settlement until the ſix Nations arrive, and shall take every opportunity to inform you of every occurrence – But I cannot conclude this without expreſsing a wish that we were better prepared against hostilities which it is the general ſentiment will certainly happen, and which tho' I do not think them inevitable, are but too likely to take place

I have the honor to be &c—

On the Meſsengers letter

The Account of Mr Burvance being put to Death is contradicted by a Mr Mitchel who was taken the ſame day and has obtained his liberty and arrived at this place a few days ago.

Letter from Gov: Western Territory
5 July 1788.

(Copy)

Mouth of Detroit River, June 14th 1790

Gentlemen.

We wrote you the 27th ultimo by Mr David Ferguſon from Sandusky - We now write you by Mr John Kenzie of Detroit - We ſet out from Sandusky agreeable to our letter of that date, and arrived at this place the 2nd inſtant. -Since our arrival at this place we have been up at Detroit where we were treated with civility - On our arrival we found but few chiefs from any other nations - The chiefs from the ſix nations are not yet arrived, which in a great meaſure keeps the meeting - The people here received a meſsage from them ſince our arrival, in which they ſay they will be here in twelve days, ſo that they are expected in the next veſsel (ſhe is hourly looked for) - We are now told that the ſix nations have ordered the grand meeting at this place - they have three days ago dispatched runners to the other nations ordering their chiefs to proceed here - How this ſeemingly ſtock of confuſion will terminate we are at loſs to ſay - The Shawaneſe, Miamies or Picts - Poutawatamies, and other nations weſtward have ſaid they will not come farther than the Miami Rapids, ſo that how ſoon this meeting will take place, or where, we are yet at a loſs - With reſpect to the priſoners that have been lately taken, it has been reported that two were put to death, ~~one~~ an old man ſuppoſed to be Mr. Purviance — Theſe reports ſeem to want confirmation — ſhall be glad to hear from you when convenient —

We are Gentlemen &c

ſigned { James Rankin
William Wilſon.

Genls. St. Clair & Butler

Letter from James Rankin
and William Wilson to Genl.
St. Clair & Butler ———
June 14th. 1700.

(Copy) 505

War Office June 23^d 1788.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you of your being appointed Agent for the Cherokee Nation of Indians agreeably to the enclosed Resolve of Congreſs of the 9th of June 1788.

I also enclose you the Ordinance of Congreſs paſsed on the 7th of August 1786 for the regulation of the Indian Department.

You will observe by your appointment that you are to act in ſubordination to the Superintendant, with whom you will constantly communicate respecting your proceedings.

I beg leave to observe that the Affairs of the United States are so circumstanced as to render the most rigid oeconomy neceſsary in all their transactions, and that no expences for presents to, or respecting the Indians, will be allowed unleſs by the ſpecial direction of Congreſs.

The particular ſituation of the Cherokees requiring the immediate attentio of Congreſs they have been pleased to appoint you to that tribe in which you are believed to have much influence.

It may be aſserted to be the ſincere desire of Congreſs to exhibit to all the Indians a conduct perfectly moderate and just—ready at all times to liſten to the reasonable complaints of the Indians, and to afford them protection when injured.

It will be expected that you particularly investigate the grievances of the Cherokees, and ſtate them to Congreſs, who will afford them all the relief that the nature of the case will admit.

You will observe by the enclosed Acts of Congreſs of the 26th of October 1787, of their attention to the Affairs of the Southern Indians, the Treaties therein directed to be held being intended as the baſis of a firm friendship with the Indians.

You will please to transmit to me from time to time every information neceſsary to be ſubmitted to Congreſs, and you will also please to inform me of the means by which I shall communicate with you.

I am Sir

Your most Obedient Servant

Colonel Joseph Martin.

Letter to Col. Jos: Martin.

June 23d 1788.

(Copy.)

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Fort Harmar July 23. 1788

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 4th instant, enclosing dispatches from Congreſs to the people of Kentucky — On the 17 Instant, they were forwarded from hence by Mr. Andrew Hare who inform'd me that he would take the most particular care, that they shall be safely delivered —

The Grand Treaty will be deferred for some time — At the request of the Governor, I ordered a Subaltern - Serjeant - Corporal & Twenty Privates as an Escort for the Provisions, and to build a Council Room for the Savages, at the falls of the Muskingum — Regardleſs of all faith and honor a party of the Ottaway & Chippeways attack'd this party on the morning of the 12th Inst. and killed two, one is miſsing and two wounded — one very badly — the loſs of the Indians was two killed on the spot, one wounded and ſix taken Prisoners, who are now in Confinement, and

under

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under heavy irons at this Garrison — I sincerely hope that the new Government will soon begin to operate, in order that we may be enabled to sweep these perfidious Villians off the face of the Earth —

In consequence of this treacherous proceeding, the Governor and myself were both of opini that the party & Provisions should be removed to the Post, accordingly the Officer return'd on the morning of the 20th — The Governor has sent a spirited meſsa to the different nations who are aſsembled and councill at the Tawa or Omie River — demanding satisfacti for this groſs insult offered to the United States — An answer to this meſsage may be expected in the cours of ten or twelve days —

If there is no impropriety in the request, I should be happy to receive the Journals Congreſs from their Origin, until the present time —

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedient & Humble Servt.

Jos. Harmar
Lt. Col. Comt. 1st US Regt.

The Honble
Charles Thompson Esqr.
Secretary to Congreſs

The honorable

Charles Thomson Esq^r.

Secretary to Congreſs

New York

Lt. Schuyler will
please to forward
this Letter ꝑ post.
from Fort Pitt
Jos. Harmar

Letter - July 23^d 1788 -
Gen^l Harmar -
of forwarding dispatches of July 12
to Kentucky - conduct of Indians -
for a copy of Journals of Congreſs

Read Aug^t 22 - 1788

Letter July 13th 1780. Genl St Clair
Do ... 16th .. Do — — do
[illegible]reſs to Indians — — — do
Letter Wm Goon — to Col Butler
Letter Wm Wilſon — — do

War Office Auguſt 8th 1788.

Sir

The Secretary at War being abſent. I have the honor to tranſmit to your Excellency letters from the Governor of the Weſtern Territory dated Fort Harmar the 15th and 16th ultimo, with encloſures.

I have the honor to be
With the greatest respect
Your Excellencys. most
Obedient Humble Servant
William Knox.

His Excellency
The Preſident of Congreſs.

Letter 8 Augt 1788
War Office ——
Read 8. August
with letters 13 & 16 July from
Govr St Clair. No 4

Genl. St Clair's letters of the 13th &
16th July 1788 to the Secy at War
with their enclosures.

(Copies)

Copy of a letter from the Governor of the Weſtern Territory to the Secretary at War dated

Fort Harmar July 13th 1788.

Sir

In the letter I did myſelf the honor to write on the 5th inſtant from Fort Pitt I mentioned that the proviſions intended for the Indians at the intended treaty had been ſent to the place upon the Muſkingham where the meeting was appointed, and that General Harmar had furniſhed a ſmall party to take care of them - This day George Waſhington a Delaware arrived here expreſs from the Officer who commands the party with an account that the morning before he had been attacked by a party of Indians - that he had one man killed, two badly wounded and ſeveral miſsing - thoſe miſsing he concluded to be either made priſoners, or attempting to make their way to this poſt - one of them is ſince come in - A negro ſervant of Mr Duncans was alſo killed and ſcalped. The Indians were repulſed and one of them left dead on the ſpot; their attack however was a very ſpirited one, for they ruſhed

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ruſhed between the guard and ſome Hutts that had been thrown up to cover the Men and proviſions, armed with Spears chiefly: Nine Delawares with their women and children came to the party about two hours after the attack, they expreſſed the greateſt concern at the affair – proteſted their being utterly ignorant of it. and ſaid the dead Indian was a Tawa. which is not improbable as it ſeems the party had come down the Muſkingham in bark Canoes ſome of which were found not far above the poſt.

It is impoſsible to determine whether this affair has been the mere wanton act of ſome predatory party uncountenanced by the Nation they belong to – whether it may have been committed by direction of the Nation to embarraſs the Councils and obſtruct a general peace to which it is ſaid that Nation are much oppoſed – or whether it ought to be conſidered as an act of general hoſtility — In any of theſe caſes however I judged it improper to let the proviſions remain where they were any longer – Should the Nations be reſolved on War and this be the first effect of that reſolution it will be ~~any~~ followed by others of a more ſerious nature — In this uncertainty to have deſired the party to be ſtrengthned I thought would be improper and what General Harmar might well refuſe — to let the proviſions remain with the preſent guard might be throwing both into the hands of the Savages — after ſuch an inſult to meet the Indians at that place ſhould they be inclined to come I thought inconſiſtent with the dignity of the United States — taking all circumſtances into view and not depending alltogether upon my own opinion, tho' alone reſponſible, with the advice of Judge Parſons and Judge Varnum and General Putnam I ſent ſome boats up to bring the proviſions away and requeſted General Harmar to withdraw the party -in a few days the whole will be here — In order however that I might be able in ſome degree to develop the intentions of the Savages and to give them an opportunity to offer ſome ſatiſfaction if they were inclined to do it I have ſent a ſpeech to the chiefs of all the Nations that are now met in Council at the Detroit or at the Tawa river (I am not certain which of the places) accompanied by one to the Wyandots at Sanduſkee, copies of which are encloſ

If they mean to be at Peace with the United States they will at leaſt make an apology for what has happened - ſhould they be heſitating or evaſive, then ſomething like a threat, at the ſame time a deſire for peace is declared, may encreaſe the danger if war is actually determined on it can do no harm and even in that caſe may do ſome good - the Meſsage will probably draw forth a reply; that may produce another from us - perhaps another from them again and ſome time will be gained - Should they diſavow the act and offer Reparation conſiſtent with the honor of the United States, and that not ſtrained very high, for I am well aware how embarraſsing a War would be, and how ruinous to the frontier peop I ſhall certainly accept it, and invite them eith to this place or any other of the poſts they may prefer; but this affair has ſo much ſhaken my opinion of their regard to national Faith, I ſhoul not be over fond to meet them quite unprotected, which it was my intention to have done.

I hope Sir Congreſs may not think the Tone of my Meſsage too high - to remonſt was become abſolutely neceſsary. and then I thoug it beſt to remonſtrate againſt the whole of their improper conduct than a part only, and to do it in ſuch terms as I thought might make ſome impreſsion upon them.

I have the honor to be &c.

(Signed)

Ar. St. Clair.

The Honble. Genl. Knox.
Secretary at War.

Letter from the Govr. of the Western
Territory to the Secty. at War dated
Fort Harmar 13th July 1788

Copy.

Letter from the Govr. of the
Western Territory to the Secy at War
dated Fort Harmar 16th July 788

Copy of a letter from the Governor of the Weſtern Territory
to the Secretary at War dated

Fort Harmar July 16th 1788.

Sir/

I had the pleaſure to receive this morning your letters of the 3d and 4th inſtant together with the additional Inſtructions of Congreſs on the ſubject of the Indian Treaty.

From mine to you of the 13th inſtant (a duplicate of which with the Meſsages ſent to the Indians is encloſed) you will find that buſineſs has at preſent rather an unfavorable aspect. I am not however without hopes that it may be brought to iſsue in peace; being perſuaded that it is the wiſh of the Nations which from their ſituation can do us moſt harm, at the ſame time that they are moſt acceptable to us.

I think Sir a good deal of time may elapſe before the great event of peace or War is decided upon, ſo long at leaſt as that I may be fully informed of the ſentiments of Congreſs upon what has happened, and whether the ſteps I have taken meet their approbation — Embarraſsing as an Indian War would be, I would wiſh from that motive, if there were no others, to take every proper mean to prevent it; but it is with Nations as with Individuals, the tamely ſubmitting to one injury uſually invites a greater, and where the national honor or interest is concerned I believe ſome embarraſsments ought to be overlooked ſo far however as I am the depoſitory of either, I perceive I ſhould be highly culpable not to maintain and defend them, unleſs I had expreſs orders to the contrary. and that the lines of departure were pretty definitely marked.

I am very ſenſibly affected Sir by this freſh mark of the confidence of Congreſs in truſting to my diſpoſal the further ſum of twenty thouſand dollars — I may venture to aſsure you that not one penny of it will be called for unleſs the objects in view can be attained; but it would be wrong in me, whilſt the contrary is my opinion, and I believe not ill grounded, to let an expectation that they will be attained gain ground.

The Weſt line pointed out in the original inſtructions which I was at liberty to ſtipulate for as a boundary, would not I believe be agreed to without much difficulty, becauſe between that line, the Ohio and Miſsiſsippi the principal hunting grounds are contained and it is the reſidence of ſome of the Nations not very well diſpoſed towards the United States; when I ſay the principal hunting grounds I mean thoſe that abound in Deer, the ſpecies of game the moſt eſsential to the Indians. — To extend the boundary northward to the completion of the forty firſt degree would include the whole of [illegible] as well as a great part of the Country where the Wyandots reſide, and what was reſerved to the Shawaneſe and Delawares; now Sir there is not the leaſt probability that theſe Countries will be given up at this time; for any conſideration that can be offered — And I believe that if contrary to my expectations they ſhould conſent to make formal conveyances of that country, unleſs they are determined to abandon it altogether which is not likely, they will never conſider themſelves as bound by them, ſo that inſtead of eſtabliſhing a ſolid and permanent peace, a foundation may probably be laid for irreconcilable hatred and waſting Wars and the money be thrown away into the Bargain — Theſe are my

opinion

opinions - I offer with great deffirence but I hold it my duty to offer them, and notwithstanding I will leave nothing undone within my power to accomplish the wiſhes of Congreſs.

I have alſo encloſed copies of letters from Wilſon the Meſsenger and Khun a Wyandot Chief to Colo. Wm. Butler tranſmitted to me by Genl. Butler and received ſince I ſat down to write - Khun ſeems well diſpoſed and I have reaſon to think that Tribe is generally ſo - The half King who is now dead was the greateſt enemy we had among them.

As the Poſt is now eſtabliſhed to Pittſburgh the communication from this part of the Country will be ſafer, and I ſhall not fail to give you information of every thing that turns up by every opportunity from hence.

I have the Honor to be &c

(Signed)

Ar. St. Clair.

The Honble. Genl. Knox
Secretary at War.

Message from the Govr. of
the Western Territory to the Indian
Chiefs at the Huron or Detroit Rivers
dated Fort Harmar 13th July 1788

Copy.

Meſsage from the Gov.r of
the Western Territory to the Indian
Chiefs at the Huron or Detroit Rivers
dated Fort Harmar 13th July 1788

Copy.

To the Chiefs of all the Nations aſsembled either at the Tawa River or at the Mouth of the Detroit River.

Brothers

You muſt well remember with how much earneſtly you laſt ſummer requeſted that Congreſs would liſten to your requeſts, and ſend ſome perſons to meet you in Council, in order that the cauſes of them might be removed.

You know how readily Congreſs complied with your requeſt, and that I was one of the perſons appointed to meet you.

You are not ignorant that the Council Fire has been long kindled at the Falls of Muſkingham; which place was choſen as being the moſt convenient to you and to us, but principally with a view to your convenience.

You have detained the Meſsengers ſent to you, and have ſent none to us in return; ſo that we know nothing of your minds. — Whether you are deſirous of Peace as you profeſsed yourſelves to be when you applied for a Treaty, or whether you intend to go to War, as many circumſtances would induce us to believe.

* The appointed time is paſt more than three months, and I have been waiting with impatience to hear of you, but as yet I know not whether you intend to come &c.

Judge now yourſelves! Would you be pleaſe with ſuch conduct in any nation whatever? No you would not be pleaſed; neither can you expect that the United States ſhould be pleaſed with it in you - But this is not all -

It is not the diſreſpect which you have ſhewn that ſcorning this Meſsage; but actual and unprovoked hoſtility. The citizens of the United States have plundered and made Priſoners, and killed upon the Ohio River peaceably following in confidence of Treaties, their lawful buſineſs. - The Flag of the United States has been fired upon; and (what is perfidious beyond compariſon) when a ſmall party of Soldiers were ſent to watch the Council Fire kindled at your requeſt; - to build a Council Houſe for you to meet in; and to take care of the proviſions ſent there to feed you, you have fallen upon them, and killed them. Anſwer me, ſhould theſe things be? In the name of the United States I require an immediate explanation of theſe tranſactions, and demand ſatisfaction and the reſtitution of the priſoners - Until theſe are made, as there can be no confidence it will be improper we ſhould meet one another in Council.

I had indeed hoped to accompliſh a great and good work – to have planted the Tree of Peace – to have brought all the Nations to have watered its Roots with us and sat together under its ſhade – to have removed all cauſes of complaint on both ſides, and that having ſprung from the ſame Earth to have infuſed the ſame ſpirit and have but one heart and one mind –

Brothers,

The United States are ſincerely deſirous of Peace, but if you will have War, why you ſhall have War.

I will wait ſome time at this place and expect ſoon to have an anſwer.

(Signed) Ar. St. Clair Govr. of the Territory of the U.S. N.W. of the Ohio & Commiſsioner for treating with the Indians.

Fort Harmar
July 13th 1788

A ſtring of black & white Wampum

To the Chiefs of the Wyandots.

Brothers the Wyandots

Harkin to me

A Black Cloud has ariſen in the North, and darkened the proſpect we had of compleating the great and good work. It may yet blow ove and that it may, I have ſent a Speech to the Chiefs of all the Nations that are aſſembled at the Mouth of the Detroit or of the Tawa River; I'm not ſure at which place they now are, but at which ever they be, I deſire that you may ſend it there.— It concerns both you and us to do good and the Nations have choſen that our Meſsag ſhould go through your hands — therefore be ſtr and this Speech forward, and aſſiſt in remov the Cloud that at preſent obſtructs us.

Copy of a letter from Abraham Coon a Wyandot Chief to Colonel William Butler dated

Sanduſkie 3d July 1788.

Sir/

Having received an Expreſs from Mr. William Wilſon at Detroit relative to ſome Indians who are going to War againſt the United States are now on their way to your quarter and we are made to underſtand that their intentions are likewiſe to watch the roads between Pittsburgh and this place,

I have prevailed on two of our Warriors from this to undertake this dangerous road and at preſent to forward this expreſs to you as it is a matter of no ſmall conſequence to us all and I hope Sir you will inform the Commiſsioners of this affairs and tell them likewiſe that it is not us Wyandots that would wish to injure our Brothers — These are Ottawas and Chippawas.

The reward for the two young Men is forty Dollars, which I think is very reaſonable conſidering the danger they undergo - It is my Wishes that you ſhould treat them generouſly.

(Signed) Abraham Coon
War Chief of the Wyandots

Pittsburgh July 14th 1788
The original of this was recd yesterday Evening.

A true Copy (Signed) Richd Butler.

Letter from Abraham Coon to
Colo. William Butler dated
Sanduskee 3d. July 1788.

Copy.

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Copy of a Letter from William Wilſon to Coll. Wm Butler dated

Mouth of Detroit River June 30th 1788.

Dear Sir/

I write you this in haſte by an Expreſs going to Sanduſkie to inform the Wyandots there of the Death of the Half-King, who died yesterday P.M. &c

I received a Note this inſtant from Mr Rankin who is up at Detroit — he informs me that yesterday paſsed Detroit 20 Ottawas & Chippawas from Makana on their way to Wheh — Capt. McKee attempted to ſtop them, but could not, they ſaid they meant the Mouth of Cayahagas to way lay the road between that and Fort Pitt to catch Paſſengers — Should they miſs them I am of opinion they will make for Pittsburgh or ſome where below, they poſsibly mean Horſe Stealing — it may be neceſsary to put the people on their guard — Should this reach you in time it might anſwer a good purpoſe to ſend a party to meet them about the Salt lick.

The Six Nations are not yet arrived and the whole ſeems to wait for them, I am in haſte

(Signed) Wm Wilson

This I only mean as a warning to put people on their guard

You will pleaſe to pay whatever Indian may carry this letter to you from Sanduſkie.

Colo. Wm Butler

The original of which this is a true Copy was received yesterday morning

(Signed) R. Butler.

Pittsburgh July 14th 1788.

Letter from Mr. Wm. Wilson to Col.
William Butler dated
Mouth of Detroit River 30th June 1788.

Copy.

Sir

Fort Harmar
September 4th. 1788

I had the honor of addressing you on the 23rd. July — therein informed you that the Despatches for the inhabitants of Kentucky were transmitted by Mr. Andrew Ware, who went from hence on the 17th. of the same month; since which I have to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 9th. July, Inclosing me a Duplicate of said Despatches —

The honorable Mr. [illegible] member of Congress informed me that the Original was safely Deliverd by Mr. Ware and in due season —
Mr. Brown left this Garrison on the

first instant — by him the Duplicate was forwarded —

But few Indians have as yet come in — We are waiting with great impatience for the arrival of Brant and the chiefs of the several nations, in order that the general Treaty may commence —

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt. hble servt.
Jos. Harmar

The honorable
Charles Thomson Esqr.
Secretary to Congreſs —

End

Letter – Sept 4th – 1788 –

Genl. Harmar –

That dispatches for the [illegible] were forwardg & had been recd /

Read Oct. 9th 1788 –

The Council met.

PHILADELPHIA, Monday, September 8th, 1788.

PRESENT:

The Honorable PETER MUHLENBERG, Esquire, Vice President.

Henry Hill,
Samuel Dean,
Abraham Smith,
Christopher Kucher,
William Maclay,
Nathan Dennisen,
Frederick Watts, and
John Cannon, Esquires.

Upon consideration of a representation from the Justices of the city and county of Philadelphia, in favor of Simon Gore, now confined in the jail of this city,

Ordered, That the fine due to the State, and the imprisonment to which he was sentenced, for a contempt of a late court of justice, be remitted.

A letter from Charles Thomson, Esquire, Secretary of Congress, inclosing an act of the United States, in Congress assembled, of the fourth instant, by which they relinquish and transfer to this State the jurisdiction of the tract of land on lake Erie, which the State has agreed to purchase of the United States, was read.

The Council met.

PHILADELPHIA, Tuesday, September 9th, 1788.

PRESENT:

The Honorable PETER MUHLENBERG, Esquire, Vice President.

Samuel Dean,
Henry Hill,
Abraham Smith,
John Cannon,
William Maclay,
Nathan Dennisen,
Christopher
Frederick Watt.

Council taking into consideration the act of Congress, dated the fourth instant, which was received and read yesterday, it was

Resolved, That the same be transmitted to the General Assembly, together with the following letter, vizt:

In Council, Philadelphia, September, 9th, 1788.

SIR:—By direction of the Board, I do myself the honor to transmit you for the consideration of the General Assembly an act of Congress, passed the fourth instant, by which the United States relinquish and transfer to the State of Pennsylvania all their right, title, and claim, to the Government and jurisdiction of the tract of land on lake Erie, which the State has agreed to purchase of the United States.

By accounts received from Pittsburgh, a pacific disposition is manifested on the part of the Indians, and there is now reason to expect a large meeting of the northern and western tribes at Muskingam, to hold a treaty with the Continental Commissioners. This favorable opportunity ought not, in the opinion of Council, to be missed, for altho' the quantity of triangle purchased from the Board of Treasury cannot be ascertained with precision before the necessary lines are run, agreeably to the act of Congress, in the sixth day of June last, yet, as a great part of the expence attending treaties with Indians is incurred by collecting and furnishing them with provisions, charges which in this instance may be avoided, Council therefore earnestly recommend the appointing Commissioners on the part of this State, to attend the ensuing treaty for purchasing from the Indians who may appear to have just claims to the same, the whole of the triangle aforesaid, as nearly as the bounds of the same may be ascertained by the best information which can be now obtained.

I have the honor to be, sir,

Your most obedient and very humble servant,

PETER MUHLENBERG, V. P.

Honorable THOMAS MIFFLIN, Esq'r, Speaker of the General Assembly.

The Council met.

PHILADELPHIA, Wednesday, September 10th, 1788.

PRESENT:

The Honorable PETER MUHLENBERG, Esquire, Vice President.

Samuel Dean,	William Maclay,	Esquires.
Henry Hill,	Nathan Dennisen,	
Abraham Smith,	Christopher Kucher, &	
John Cannon,	Frederick Watt,	

The petition of Elizabeth O'Hara and Margaret Jackson, being read,

Ordered, That the fine of five pounds imposed upon Elizabeth O'Hara, and her servitude to hard labor, and the fine of Margaret Jackson, of fifty-two pounds two shillings and six pence, and servitude to hard labor, be remitted.

On motion,

Ordered, That Monday next be appointed for going into the consideration of the petition from several persons resident in the North-

Fort Schuyler Sept. 19. 1788

D Sir/

Since your departure. the Treaty with the Onondagas has been concluded. and they have returned toward their own country. Old Black-Cap. their chief Sachem made a very spirited and sensible Speech at the ratification, and after he had delivered a Copy of the Contract, together with a String of Wampum to the Governor; he proceeded to adopt all the Commissioners as well as the Surveyor General and myself, brothers of his Nation; after the performance of this ceremony in form, the aged chief dined with us, and signified that since, in his advanced time of life he could no longer procure subsistence by the fatiguing exercises of fishing and hunting, that feared he might be reduced to extreme suffering for want of the necessaries of life; on hearing this the Attorney General offered him a maintenance for life; if with his Ojquaa, he would go to Poughkeepsie; to this the Onondaga replied with a Spirit of patriotism worthy of Phocion or Cato. "that for his own part he could "willingly consent to go, but could not endure "to leave unadvised and unprotected those tribes "of people, whose Wellfare depended so much "upon his exertions." Before they went away the pretty Ojquaa whom we all used to consider as the finest girl among them. made me a present of her odoriferous necklace, which I intend

I intend to keep for a present to my own Esquire as soon as I can get one. The Negotiations are now going on with the Oneydas, who have heard our public Speech, and are this day to return an Answer to it. The Reply would have been given by them the day before yesterday, had not the Council Fire been put out, by the News that one of our Brothers was found dead, down Wood-Creek; on searching it was discovered to be the Body of Capt. John's Brother, who probably in a fit of drunkenness fell into the Water and was drowned. Business has been suspended ever since, but will begin again to day, when we expect to hear Sachem Peter deliver an elegant oration. By means of the suspicious temper of these Indians, excited by the industrious insinuations of certain of our own people against the State, the Business with the Oneydas has been already somewhat retarded, and will in the End be far less easy to accomplish; but the particulars of these matters I must not relate. On Sunday last, divine service was held at the corner of the Fort, when the Oneydas attended with a very decent appearance of devotion. The Revd Mr Kirkland preached to them in their own Tongue; and the Singing was very agreeable, for although the Hymns and Psalms are not composed in Rhyme but simply in Metre, yet when well-sung, the difference is scarcely perceptible. The Women were nicely dressed, & behaved well; and Paulus's Wife, Sachem's Wife, had a more inviting look, than any Woman upon the Ground. Joseph Brant's new Version of the Gospel of Mark into the

Mohawk Tongue, was lately printed in London under the Auſpices of the Society for propagating the Evangelical Truths in foreign parts. and was, a Copy ſince ſent a preſent from Niagara by the Tranſlator to Mr. Kirkland, who you know is now labouring to convert the Indians to Chriſtianity with the ſame laudable Zeal, that Mr. Andrews, Dr. Barclay & Dr. Ogilvie, have employed before him.

Capt Jacob Reed has received from the Commiſsioners a written Certificate that the Obligations delivered to the Indians by the Company of adventurers, are null and void, because the original Contract being illegal and therefore impoſsible, all poſterior & ſubordinate bargains, must of course be of none Effect—

Their Honours the Commiſsioners are well, excepting that Genl. Gansevoort, your fellow ſuffering has ſtill the remains of Poiſon in his leg, and the Recorder has had a fit of the Ague. I intended to have come down this day, but the Governor & Genl. Floyd, to whom I mentioned my intention, adviſed me to wait untill the Concluſion of the Buſineſs; ſo that as I have ſigned one of the Treaties already, I ſhall alſo be called upon to witneſs the other whenever it is concluded.— My Indian name, when interpreted ſignifies The deſtroyer of Towns. We ſhall probably be ready to return next Week.

I am, Sir, with much Regard

yours Hanatta-ex Mitchill

Saml Latham Mitchill

Stephen Van Renſselaer Esqr.

(Copy.)

Fort Harmar September 2d. 1788.

Sir

Since mine to you of the 9th of Auguſt I have had the Honor to receive Duplicates of your letters of July 3d and 16th and of Auguſt the firſt, alſo your favor of the 10th of laſt month with that for [illegible].

I am ſtill in the ſame uncertain ſtate of ſuſpenſe with regard to the Indians as when I wrote laſt, except that we have been viſited repeatedly by conſiderable numbers. chiefly of the Delawares who profeſs themſelves to be very friendly. and do us the honor to eat a great deal of proviſions.

The only Communications from the Lakes I have had are from the Meſsengers, which came to hand laſt night from Fort Pitt & I have encloſed the originals not having time to take copies — It appears from them that the Six Nations, on whom the whole buſineſs ſeems to turn, are at laſt arrived, ſo that I have reaſon to expect to receive information from thence very ſoon. that will be deciſive as to the time of their coming here, which will be immediately ſent forward to you.

In conſequence of the Reſolution of the 12th Ultimo I have this day written to the Executives of Virginia and Pennſylvania requeſting that orders might be given to the Lieutenants of their Frontier Counties to hold their proportions of the Militia required in readineſs. and cauſe them to be marched to the places that may be pointed out. on my application to them. which will ſave

a

10 — a great deal of time, in case of necessity; and without a very evident one no application will be made; and consequently no expence be incurred; for I am very strongly impressed with the sentiment that a War with the Savages, if it can be avoided, would be very inconvenient to say the least of it.

General Butler with the Senecas are not yet arrived in. He writes me that I may expect him by the middle of the present week — from other information I learn that he has been much mistaken about the number of these people instead of three hundred, they are now said to be not more than about thirty; but if these are the proper persons it is no disappointment.

I have the honor to be &c.

(Signed) Ar. St Clair.

The Honorable
Major General Knox
Secretary at War.

— Letter —

The Governor of the Weſtern territory,

— to —

The Secretary at War.

Fort Harmar Septr 2d.

— 790 —

(Copy)

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Detroit Miamis Mouth 2d Aug. 1788.

Sir/

We received your favor of the 15th Ultimo by Mr Williams also a Copy of yours dated Pittsburgh the [illegible] Ult. on the first Instant, the original is not yet come to hand — In which you tell us you would have been here before [illegible] the Messages [illegible] This would undoubtedly have been the case, had not the Wyandot Chiefs requested our attendance at their general meeting, although we must confess that we have not discovered in any of the Chiefs we have yet seen from [illegible], any dislike not to attend [illegible] as to the time uncertain, owing to the delay of the Six Nations, whom we conclude at that time must have arrived [illegible] which is not the case to this day — Every vessel that arrives brings accounts that they will be in the next; one is expected in three or four days said to bring them — We find not a single resolution will be entered into until they arrive the whole of the business waits on them.

We presume you are not unacquainted with the cause that delays the Six Nations, there being three Commissioners from the State of New York, and two from Boston at Buffalo Creek nigh to Niagara holding a council with them.

The 27th Ulto. we wrote and sent George Loveless with messages from the Indians to you and the Governor to the Falls of Muskingum — Since which messages have arrived at this place from Governor St Clair demanding satisfaction for the killing part of the guard at the Falls — this ſeems to ſtagger the Indians much.

We ſhall remain here a few days longer, at leaſt until George Loveleſs returns, who we expect in about eight days; in the mean time the Six Nations may arrive, there is no driving the others, and the whole [illegible] of delay is owing to them — they have deceived and diſappointed [illegible] people, their promiſes to them were to [illegible] as ſoon as [illegible] went off the ground ſo that [illegible].

[illegible] were we not of opinion that it is for the [illegible] of the [illegible] in remaining here, we ſhould have [illegible] out of this long ere now — You cannot [illegible] here but of choice; people [illegible] almoſt naked of clothing — [illegible] — nor even ſcarcely any thing to purchaſe the common neceſsaries of life.

The [illegible] that killed the Men at Muſkingham were [illegible] who went by here from Makana; they returned by this way ſome days paſt with Six Scalps, and one Priſoner (Some Shawanee men that ſaw theſe Scalps ſay they had made two out of each in their opinion they ſeemed ſo like by the Hair) — They paſsed by Detroit on the oppoſite ſide of the river — They told the French people that their father of that place was a Dog, that he would neither give them as they went out any Proviſion, Ammunition nor any thing elſe, ſo they would take the Priſoners they had, and give him to their Father at Makana.

You will naturally conclude that this comes far ſhort of your expectations, with reſpect to the time of meeting at our Treaty: but we aſsure you this is all we can ſay— So ſoon as the Six Nations arrive, they tell us the time of meeting will be fixed of which you will be informed as ſoon as poſsible.

We are Sir with reſpect &c.

(Signed) Wm Wilſon
James Rinken

General Richard Butler.

—Letter—

Wm Wilſon and James Rinken
to
General Butler.
Detroit River's Mouth, Augt 4th 1790.

(Copy)

Detroit Rivers Mouth - Aug.t 14th 1788.

Dear General.

I this moment received a note from Mr. Rankin who is up at the fort - he informs me that Captain Brant is arrived three days ago with about two hundred of the ſix nations; - They are all to be at this place in three days - their ſtay here they ſay will not be more than two or three days - They will then proceed to the Miami River to wait there for the Shawanoese, Delawares, and Miamies; who are all waiting the arrival of the ſix nations, ſo that it is likely we ſhall proceed to the Muskingum in a few days - I myſelf ſeen a Mr. Clinch a young man from Niagara on his paſsage up this river - he came with the Indians - he told me that they are in a great hurry - he alſo told me that he is going to attend our treaty - the reaſon of it I could not learn, as I have not been at Detroit ſince before I wrote about the Chippewa warriors - he alſo ſaid that Captain Brant had wrote you the reaſon of their being ſo long delayed by the land-jobbers from New York and Boſton - So ſoon as the nations come here and will fix as near the time of meeting as poſsible, we ſhall go or ſend to Muskingum - I think you may with propriety proceed to that place ſo ſoon as convenient - It will not be long before they begin to collect there, and from all I can learn, they mean to be numerous - We had wrote you a few days ago by a Mr. Vincent, who has been obliged to return to Detroit - I now ſend it by the bearer for your peruſal -

George Lovelace is not yet returned from the Muskingum — I look for him hourly — No doubt but the Governor will write us by him:

I have directed Simon Girty to get an Indian at Sandusky to join with him, who you will please ſee ſatisfied — Girty goes on other buſineſs and only takes charge of our letters — The priſoner that was taken from Muskingum is released from the indians at Matima, and is likely will ſoon be ſent down to Detroit, from whence he can ſoon get in.

I am with reſpect &c —

(Signed) Wm. Wilſon —

General Richard Butler

William Willſon to Genl. Butler –
– dated –
Detroit River's mouth, Augt. 14th 17[illegible].

(Copy.)

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War Office September 19th 1788.

Sir.

In the abſence of the Secretary at War. I have the honor to tranſmit to your Excellency, the copy of a letter from the Governor of the Weſtern Territory dated at Fort Harmar the 2d instant, together with copies of two letters from the Indian Meſsengers to the Superintendant of Indian Affairs for the Northern Diſtrict dated Detroit Rivers Mouth the [illegible] and 16th Ultimo.

I have the Honor to be
With the higheſt reſpect
Your Excellencys Most
Obedient Humble Servants.
Wm Knox.

His Excellency
The Preſident of Congreſs.

Montreal 20th Sepr 1788.

At a Meeting held with Captain Aaron
Hill, alias Karonraron, and Captain Isaac Hill,
Mohawk Chiefs of the Settlement of the Grand
the Superintendant General & Inspector General
dian affairs, (after the usual Ceremonies of
ance &c.) spoke as follows, in the name, & by
of His Excellency Lord Dorchester.

Brethren;

Your long attachment to the English, and your faithful Services during the War, are well known to me & to all the British Nation, which makes it the more painful to hear of the disputes or difference in opinion that now subsists among your Nation, particularly those that tend to alienate your affection and attachment from the King your Father; as it must be from Him alone that You can receive protection.

In order to ease your minds relative to your Right to the Lands you are settled upon on the Grand, or Oswego River, I think it necessary to acquaint you that the Land, as appears by the papers annexed, was granted by His Excellency Sir Frederick Haldimand, my predecessor in the Governmt. of the Province, to the Six Nations in general, and the White People have no right to it & must withdraw, and if they do not do it forthwith of their own accord, measures will be taken to compel them. That all the White People know that they are not to enveigle and work upon the passions of the Indians to obtain Grants of Land. That if the Indians are prevailed upon in some instances to comply with their solicitations, the King will never confirm their Grants nor allow the Individuals to keep possession.

Measures will be taken to bring about a Reconciliation, and to restore Peace in the Village, but as it in a great measure depends upon yourselves to facilitate this desirable end, you cannot be too circumspect in your Conduct. – You should therefore act with great temper and forbearance that no blame may rest on You, and that none may plead Ignorance of the Intentions of Governmt. in making the Grant, this and the annex'd papers should be made Publick to both Whites & Indians.

The Superintendt. General then addressed them from himself as follows —

Brethren,

Listen attentively to what I am now going to say to You — open your Eyes & cleanse your Ears that my Words may make a strong impression on You.

With this Belt I strengthen your hearts & minds that you may guard against all Evil Councils and shut your Ears against the reports of Idle & evil-minded Men who may wish to lead you astray, and I earnestly hope & wish that Peace & tranquility may be soon restored between You and all your Friends, but particularly in your own Village, and I would recommend that You and the other Chiefs of the settlement whose business it is to preserve Peace & harmony amongst your People, would exert yourselves to obtain that desirable End which you seem to stand so much ~~in~~ need of, and on which the prosperity of your Settlements depends — I now take leave of You, and recommend You to the care & protection of the Almighty who never deserts those that put their trust in Him.

Speech to the
Mohawks
transmitted from
ye Superintendt. Genl.
Montreal ~~26~~ 20 Septr. 88

At a Meeting with Capt. Aaron … raron, and
Capt. Isaac Hill, both Mohawk Chiefs … ttlement of the Grand
River the Superintendent Genl. & Inspector General of Indian
after the usual ceremonies of condolence, &ca. spoke as follows; with
and, by desire of His Excelly. Lord Dorchester

… mber 1788.

Brethren

… the English, and you
faithful service … to me, and all the
Nation, which ma… of the disputes, or
difference in opi… Nations, particularly
those that tend … tions from the King
Your Father, as … you can receive
protection. In… to your right to
the Lands you … Oswego River,
I think it neces… and as appears by
the papers annex… ncy Sir Frederick
Haldimand my predecessor in the Government of the Province,
the Six Nations in general, and the White people, have no right
to it, and must withdraw, and if they do not do it forthwith of
their own accord, measures will be taken to compel them. That
the White people know that they are not to inveigle, and work
upon the passions of the Indians, to obtain grants of Land.

That if the Indians are prevailed upon in some instances to comply with their solicitations the King will never confirm their grants, nor allow the individuals to keep possessions.

Measures will be taken to bring about a reconciliation, and to restore peace in the Village, but as it in a great measure depends upon yourselves to facilitate this desirable end, you cannot be too circumspect in your conduct.

You

Lord Dorchester
2d Sep 178

Informing Six
Nations that promises
made to them by Sir
Fredk Haldimand
in respect to Land
grant would be
faithfully carried
out

s Raronwarons, and
ttlement of the Grand
ector General of Indian Affai
, &c.ª spoke as follows, with the
d. Dorchester

Montreal 20 September 1788.

Your long attachment to the English, and your faithful services during the War are well known to me, and all the Nation, which makes it the more painful to hear of the disputes, or difference in opinion that now subsists among your Nation, particularly those that tend to endeavour to alienate your affection from the King your Father, as it must be from him alone, that you can receive protection. In order to ease your minds relative to your right to the Lands you are settled upon, on the Grand, or Oswego River, I think it neceſsary to acquaint you, that the Land as appears by the papers annexed was granted by His Excellency Sir Frederick Haldimand my predeceſsor in the Government of the Province, to the Six Nations in general; and the White people, have no right to it, and must withdraw, and if they do not do it forthwith of their own accord, measures will be taken to compel them. That all the White people know that they are not to inveigle, and work upon the paſsions of the Indians, to obtain grants of Land.

That if the Indians are prevailed upon in some instances to comply with their solicitations the King will never confirm their grants, nor allow the individuals to keep poſseſsion.

Measures will be taken to bring about a reconciliation, and to restore peace in the Village, but as it in a great measure depends upon yourselves to facilitate this desirable end, you cannot be too circumspect in your conduct.

You will therefore act with great temp[illegible] forbearance, that no blame may rest on you; and that no [illegible] plead ignorance of the intentions of Government in mak[illegible] Grant, this and the annexed Papers should be made pub[illegible] both Whites & Indians.

(Signed) Dorchester.

Quebec 23d March 1784

Inclosed I transmit for your Information the substance of Joseph Brant's requisitions, with my answers thereto. since my letter to you of the 15 Inst. — I have had frequent conversations with Joseph upon the Subject of it, which have confirmed me in the opinion therein expressed respecting the settlement proposed upon the Grand River for such of the Mohawks and others of the Six Nations who shall chuse to retire to it — The inclosed will shew you that Joseph is so sanguine in this Business as to expect it may be immediately carried into execution, desirous to gratify the wishes of these deserving [illegible] which falls to our share — You will please therefore to give Lieut. Colo. Butler the necessary directions for purchasing without loss of time the Tract of Country, as described in the inclosed. Viz. The Land situated between Lakes Ontario, Erie & Huron. — Satisfied that you will be very particular in your Instructions to Colo. Butler respecting the Terms of this Purchase, I shall only observe that the utmost attention to Oeconomy must be paid in this, and all future expences in a Department which has had so great a share in exhausting the Public Treasure.

(Signed) Frederick Haldimand

To
Sir John Johnston Bart.
Superintendt. Genl. & Inspr. Genl.
of Indian Affairs — }

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Lord Dorchesters
Speach, Concerning
White peoples living upon
the Indians Land

1788

Copy of the within given to
Colonel Claus 28th August 1824

First day of January one thousand seven hundred and Eighty nine Simeon De Witt who being severally and respectively sworn depose and that they were respectively present & saw the several Indians whose names are wrote opposite to their respective Seals and also the several Commissioners within named severally Seal and deliver the within Instrument as their voluntary Act and Deed for the Uses therein mentioned and that they severally subscribed their names thereto as Witnesses to the Execution thereof. And said Samuel Kirkland farther deposeth and saith that previous to the Execution of the said Deed he truly and faithfully interpreted the same to the said Indians from the English thereof. And I having examined the said Instrument and finding therein no Razure Interlineations or Obliterations other than those interpreted and made before its Execution. Do allow the same to be recorded. Robert Yates.

The aforegoing Instrument is a true copy of the Original (Words from the said 18th line page 151, and word Intrusions 26th line page 152 being at first written on Razures. And in page 152 line 6 words of New York being at first obliterated and word said interlined) Compared therewith By Me.

Lewis A. Scott Secretary.

At a Treaty held at Fort Schuyler formerly called Fort Stanwix in the State of New York By His Excellency George Clinton Governor of the said State, and William Floyd, Ezra L'Hommedieu, Richard Varick, Samuel Jones, Egbert Benso
and Peter Gans Junior (Commissioners authorized
for that purpose on behalf of the People of th
of New York) wi Tribe or nation of Indians ca
the Oneidas, It i twenty second day of Septem
the Year one th d seven hundred and Eig
covenante as follows. — First the
All their the Pe

New York forever. — Secondly of the said ceded Lands
wing Tract towit Beginning at the Wood Creek opposite
to the Mouth of the Canada Creek and where the Line of property
comes to the said Wood Creek and runs thence Southerly to the
Northwest Corner of the Tract to be granted to John Francis
Perache, thence along the westerly Bounds of the said Tract
to the South West Corner thereof, thence to the North West corner
of the Tract granted to James Dean, thence along the Westerly
Bounds thereof to the South West Corner of the last mentioned
Tract thence due South until it intersects a due West
line from the head of the Tienaderha or Unadilla River —
thence from the said Point of intersection due West until the
deep Spring bears due North, thence due North to the deep
Spring thence the nearest Course to the Canaseraga Creek
and thence along the said Creek the Oneida Lake and
the Wood Creek to the place of Beginning shall be reserved
for the following several Uses that is to say. The Lands lying
to the Northward of a line parallel to the Southern Line of the said
reserved Lands and four miles distant from the said Southern Line
the Oneidas shall hold to themselves and their posterity forever
for their own use and Cultivation but not to be sold leased or in
any other manner aliened or disposed of to others. The Oneidas
may from time to time forever make Leases of the Lands between
id parallel lines (being the residue of the said reserved
s) to such persons and on such Rents reserved as they
deem proper, but no Lease shall be for a longer Term
wenty One Year from the making thereof and no new
hall be made until the former Lease of the same Lands
have expired. The Rents shall be to the Use of the Oneidas
their Posterity forever. And the People of the State of New-
hall from time to time make provision by Law to compel
ees to pay the Rents and in every other respect to enable
eidas and their Posterity to have the full Benefit of

Their Right so to make leases and to prevent fra them respecting the same. And the Oneidas and their posterity forever shall enjoy the free right of hunting in every part of the said ceded Lands and of fishing in all the Waters within the same and especially there shall forever remain ungranted by the People of the State of New York one half mile square at the distance of every six Miles of the Lands along the Northern Bounds of the Oneida Lake one half mile in Breadth of the Lands on each side of the Fish Creek and a convenient piece of Land at the fishing place in the Onondago River about three miles from where it issues out of the Oneida Lake and to remain as well for the Oneidas and their posterity as for the Inhabitants of the said State to land and encamp on, but notwithstanding any reservation to the Oneidas the People of the State of New York may erect public Works and Edifices as they shall think proper at such place and places at or near the Confluence of the Wood Creek and the Oneida Lake as they shall elect and may take and appropriate for such Works or Buildings Lands to the Extent of one square Mile at each place. And further notwithstanding any Reservations of Lands to the Oneidas for their Own Use the New England Indians (now settled at Brotherton under the pastoral care of the Reverend Samson Occom) an posterity forever and the Stockbridge Indians an posterity forever, are to enjoy their Settlements Lands heretofore given to them by the Oneidas for pose, That is to say a Tract of two miles in Brea three miles in length for the New England India a Tract of Six Mile square for the Stockbridge Thirdly in Consideration of the said Cession and People of the State of New York Do at this Treaty pay das two thousand dollars in money two thousand do

6 [illegible] and other Goods and one thousand dollars in provis[illegible]d also five hundred dollars in money to be applied towards building a Grist Mill and saw Mill at their Village (the Receipt of which Moneys Clothing and Goods and provisions the Oneidas Do now acknowledge) and the People of the State of New York shall annually pay to the Oneidas and their posterity forever on the first day of June in every Year at Fort Schuyler aforesaid six hundred dollars in Silver, but if the Oneidas or their posterity shall at any time hereafter elect that the whole or any part of the said six hundred dollars shall be paid in Clothing or Provisions and give six weeks previous notice thereof to the Governor of the said State for the time being then so much of the annual payment shall for that time be in Clothing or provisions as the Oneidas and their posterity shall elect, and at the price which the same shall cost the people of the State of New York at Fort Schuyler aforesaid and as a further consideration to the Oneidas the People of the State of New York shall grant to the said John Francis Perache a Tract of Land Beginning in the line of property at a certain Cedar Tree near the Road leading to Oneida and runs from the said Cedar Tree southerly along the line of property two miles then westerly at Right Angles to the said Line of Property two miles, then northerly at Right Angles to the last Course two Miles and then to the place of Beginning, which the said John Francis Perache hath consented to receive from the Oneidas in satisfaction for an injury done to him by one of their Nation. And further the Lands intended by the Oneidas for John T. Kirkland and for George W. Kirkland being now appropriated to the Use of the Oneidas the People of the State of New York shall therefore by a Grant of [illegible] compensation to the said John T. Kirkland and George W. Kirkland. And further that the People of the State of New York shall as a Benevolence from the Oneidas [illegible] turn for Services rendered by him

To their Nation, grant to the said Peter Penet of the [illegible]ded Lands lying to the Northward of the Oneida Lake a [illegible] of ten Miles square wherever he shall elect the same. — Fourthly the People of the State of New York may in such manner as they shall deem proper prevent any persons except the Oneidas from residing or settling on the Lands so to be held by the Oneidas and their posterity for their own Use and Cultivation, and if any persons shall without the consent of the People of the State of New York come to reside or settle on the said Lands — or on any other of the Lands so ceded as aforesaid except the Lands whereof the Oneidas may make Leases as aforesaid, the Oneidas and their posterity shall forthwith give notice of such intrusions to the Governor of the said State for the time being. And further the Oneidas and their posterity forever shall at the request of the Governor of the said State be aiding to the People of the State of New York in removing all such intruders and in apprehending not only such Intruders but also Felons and other Offenders who may happen to be on the said ceded Lands to the End that such Intruders — Felons and other Offenders may be brought to Justice. In Testimony whereof as well the Sachems Chief Warriors and others of the said Oneidas in behalf of their Tribe or Nation as the said Governor and other Commissioners of the People of the State of New York have hereunto interchangeably set their hands and affixed their Seals the day & year first above written. Odaghseghte his X mark (LS). Kanadiho:weaya his X mark (LS) Peter [illegible] Atsiquetty (LS) Thaghniyongo his X mark (LS). Thonigweaghsgale his X mark (LS). Tekeandiyakhon his X mark (LS). Ojistalale alias Grangurry his X mark (LS) Otetogon his X mark (LS) Toyohagweanda his X mark (LS). Oneyanha alias Beech Tree his X mark (LS) Thaghneghtolis alias Hendrick his X mark (LS) Shonoughleyo Alias Anthony his [illegible] [illegible]ghtaghquisea his mark (LS). Kanaghsalilgh his X mark (LS) Gag[illegible] Teaghsweangal[illegible] alias James his X mark (LS) Agwelentongwas [illegible] his [illegible]

Ioneghkishea alias Daniel his X mark (LS) Thaniyeandagayon his X mark (LS) Hawistonis alias Blacksmith his X mark (LS) Keanyako alias David his X mark (LS) — Kahiktotan his X mark (LS) Sagoyontha his X mark (LS) Hannah Sodolk her X mark (LS) Teyoughnihalk Koniwagalet her X mark (LS) Kaskonghgwea Kanwagalet her X mark (LS) Honorwayele her X mark (LS) Geo: Clinton (LS) Wm. Floyd (LS) Ezra L'Hommedieu (LS) Richd. Varick (LS) Samuel Jones (LS) Egbert Benson (LS) Peter Gansevoort Junr. (LS) Skenondongh his X mark (LS).

Witnesses present. The Words [and the Stockbridge Indians and their posterity forever] after the third word in the last line of the second Article and also the Words [For the New England Indians and a Tract of six miles square for the Stockbridge Indians] at the End of the same line and also the Words [Two thousand dollars in money] in the first line of the third Article, and the words [Except the Lands whereof the Oneidas may make Leases as aforesaid] in the third line of the fourth Article being first interlined. Before the Execution hereof the Oneidas in publie Council declared to the Commissioners that they had in return for his frequent good Offices to them given to John T. Beeker of the Lands reserved for their own use one mile square adjoining to the Lands of James Dean and requested the same might be granted and confirmed to him by the State. Sam: Kirkland Missy. & Interpreter. B. Chr. Dept. Esqr. Abrm. Rosencrant. Simeon De Witt Survr. Genl. Sam: Latham Mitchill John Tayler. Wm. Colbrath. Be it Remembred that in the Month of December in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Eighty Eight personally appeared before me Robert Yates Esquire one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Judicature of the State of New York, the Revd. Samuel Kirkland Indian Missionary and Interpreter and Samuel Mitchell, and on the first day of January one thousand seven hundred and Eighty Nine Simeon De Witt, who being severally and respectively sworn depose and say that they were respectively present and saw the several Indians whose names

Are wrote opposite to their respective Seals, and also the several Commissioners within named severally seal and deliver the within Instrument as their voluntary Act & Deed for the Uses therein mentioned; And that they severally subscribed their names thereto as Witnesses to the Execution thereof and saw the other subscribing Witnesses set their Names thereto for the same purpose. And the said Samuel Kirkland farther deposeth & saith that previous to the Execution of the said Deed, he truly and faithfully interpreted the same to the said Indians from the English into the Indian Language, and from such Interpretation they well understood the Contents thereof. And I having examined the said Instrument and finding therein no Razures Interlineations or Obliterations other than those made and interpreted before its Execution. Do allow the same to be recorded.

Robert Yates.

The aforegoing Instrument is a true Copy of the Original (word to between 26th and 27th lines page 156 and Words People of the between 3d and 4th lines of page 158 being at first interlined. Word or 9th line page 157 and Word Blacksmith 2d line page 159 being at first written on Razures) Compared therewith By me. —

Lewis A. Scott Secretary

At a Treaty held in the City of Albany in the State of New York by His Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the said State, the Honorable Pierre Van Cortlandt Esquire Lieutenant Governor of the said State, Ezra L'Hommedieu Abraham Ten Broeck, John Hathorn, Samuel Jones Peter Gansevoort Junior and Egbert Benson Esquires (Commissioners authorized for that purpose by and on behalf of the People of the State of New York) with several of the Sachems Chiefs and Warriors of the Tribe or Nation of Indians

At a Treaty held at Fort Schuyler formerly called Fort Stanwix in the State of New York by His Excellency George Clinton Governor of the said State and William Floyd Ezra L'Hommedieu Richard Varick [illegible] Egbert Benson and Peter Gansevoort Junior Commissioners authorized for that Purpose by and on behalf of the People of the State of New York and the Tribe or Nation of Indians called the Oneidas, it is on the twenty second Day of September in the [illegible] thousand seven hundred and eighty eight, covenanted and concluded as follows. —

First. The Oneidas do cede and grant all their Lands to the People of the State of New York forever. —

Secondly. Of the said ceded Lands the following Tract to wit, Beginning at the Wood Creek opposite to the mouth of the Canada Creek and where [illegible] of Property comes to the said Wood Creek [illegible] thence Southerly [illegible] Northern corner of the Tract to be granted to John Francis Perache; thence [illegible] the said Tract to the [illegible] corner thereof; thence to the Northeast corner of the Tract granted to James Dean; thence along the [illegible] bounds thereof to the Southeast corner of the said Tract; thence [illegible] South until it intersects a due West Line from the Head of the Tianaderha [illegible]; thence from the said Point of Intersection [illegible] the Deep Spring [illegible] due North, thence due North to the Deep Spring; thence the nearest Course to [illegible] Canaseraga Creek and thence along the said Creek, the Oneida Lake and the Wood Creek to the Place of Beginning, shall be reserved for the following Uses, that is to say, the Lands lying to the Northward of a Line parallel to the Southern Line of the said reserved Lands and four Miles distant from the said Southern Line, the Oneidas shall hold to themselves and their Posterity forever for their own Use and Cultivation, but not to be sold, leased or in any other Manner aliened or disposed of to others. The Oneidas may from Time to Time forever make Leases of the Lands between the said parallel Line and the Residue of the said reserved Lands to such Persons and on such Rents reserved as they shall deem proper, but no Lease shall be for a longer Term than twenty one Years from the making thereof, and no new Lease shall be made until the former Lease of the same Lands shall have expired, and the Rents shall be to the Use of the Oneidas and their Posterity forever; and the People of the State of New York shall from Time to Time make Provision [illegible] to compel the Lessees to pay the Rents and in every other Respect to enable the Oneidas and their Posterity to have the full Benefit of their Right [illegible] Leases and to prevent Frauds on them respecting the same; And the Oneidas and their Posterity forever shall enjoy the free Right of hunting in every Part of the said ceded Lands and of fishing in all the Waters within the same, and especially there shall forever remain ungranted by the State of New York one half Mile square at the Distance of every six Miles of the Lands along the Northern Banks of the Oneida Lake, one half Mile [illegible] the Lands on each Side of the Fish Creek and a convenient Piece of Land at the Fishing Place in the Onondaga River about three Miles from where [illegible] of the Oneida Lake and to remain [illegible] the Oneidas and their Posterity as for the Inhabitants of the said State to land and encamp on; but [illegible] without any Interruption to the Oneidas, the People of the State of New York may erect Public Works and Edifices as they shall think proper at such Places at or near the Confluence of the Wood Creek and the Oneida Lake as they shall elect, and may take and appropriate for such Works and Buildings Lands to the Extent of one square Mile at each Place. And further notwithstanding any Reservations of Lands to the Oneidas for their own Use, the New England Indians (now settled at Brotherton under [illegible] Samson Occum) and their Posterity forever and the Stockbridge Indians and their Posterity forever are to enjoy their Settlements on the Lands heretofore given to them by the Oneidas for that Purpose, that is to say, a Tract of two Miles in Breadth and three Miles in Length for the New England Indians and a Tract of six Miles square for the Stockbridge Indians.

Thirdly. In Consideration of the said Cession and Grant, the People of the State of New York do at this Treaty pay to the Oneidas two thousand Dollars in Money, two thousand Dollars in Clothing and other Goods and one thousand Dollars in Provisions, and also five hundred Dollars in Money to be applied towards building a Grist Mill and Saw Mill at their Village (the Receipt of which Money, Clothing and Goods and Provisions the Oneidas do now acknowledge), and the People of the State of New York shall annually pay to the Oneidas and their Posterity forever on the first Day of June [illegible] at Fort Schuyler aforesaid six hundred Dollars in Silver; but if the Oneidas and their Posterity shall at any Time hereafter elect that the whole or any Part of the said six hundred Dollars shall be paid in Clothing or Provisions and [illegible] Notice thereof to the Governor of the said State for the Time being, then so much of the annual Payment shall for that Time be in Clothing or Provisions as the Oneidas and their Posterity shall elect and at the Price which the same shall cost the People of the State of New York at Fort Schuyler aforesaid. And as a further Consideration to the Oneidas, the People of the State of New York shall grant to the said John Francis Perache a Tract of Land beginning in the Line of Property at a certain Cedar Tree near the Road leading to Oneida & runs from the said Cedar Tree Southerly along the Line of Property two Miles; thence Westerly at right Angles to the said Line of Property two Miles; thence Northerly at right Angles to the last Course two Miles & thence to the Place of Beginning, which the said John Francis Perache hath consented to accept from the Oneidas in Satisfaction of an Injury done to him by one of their Nation. And further the Lands intended by the Oneidas for John T. Kirkland and for George W. Kirkland being comprehended in the Lands reserved to the Use of the Oneidas, the People of the State of New York shall therefore by a grant of other Lands make Compensation to the said John T. Kirkland and George W. Kirkland. And further that the People of the State of New York shall, as a Benevolence from the Oneidas to Peter Penet and in Return for Services rendered [illegible] to their Nation, grant to the said Peter Penet of the said ceded Lands lying to the Northward of the Oneida Lake a Tract of ten Miles square, wherever he shall elect the same.

Fourthly. The People of the State of New York may, in such Manner as they shall deem proper, prevent any Persons except the Oneidas from residing or settling on the Lands so to be held by the Oneidas and their Posterity for their own Use and Cultivation; and if any Person shall without the Consent of the People of the State of New York come to reside or settle on the said Lands or on any other of the Lands so ceded as aforesaid, except the Lands whereof the Oneidas may make Leases as aforesaid, the Oneidas and their Posterity shall forthwith give Notice of such Intrusions to the Governor of the said State for the Time being. And further the Oneidas and their Posterity forever shall, at the Request of the Governor of the said State, be aiding to the People of the State of New York in removing all such Intruders and in apprehending not only such Intruders but also Felons and other Offenders who may happen to be on the said ceded Lands, to the End that such Intruders, Felons and other Offenders may be brought to Justice. —

In Testimony whereof as well the Sachems, Chiefs, Warriors and others of the Oneidas in behalf of their Tribe or Nation, as the said Governor and other Commissioners of the People of the State of New York have hereunto interchangeably set their Hands and affixed their Seals the Day and Year first above written.

Witnesses present

The words [illegible] in the first Line of the [illegible] and also the words "and the [illegible] Indians and their Posterity forever" [illegible] second Line of the [illegible] the words "as the New England Indians [illegible] of six Miles square for the Stock[illegible]" at the End of the second [illegible] and the words "two thousand [illegible] in Money" in the first Line of [illegible] Articles being first interlined

[illegible] the Execution hereof the Oneidas [illegible] Council declared to the Commissioners that they had in Return for his [illegible] given [illegible] the Blacksmith of the Lands reserved for their own Use one Mile square adjoining the Lands of James Dean & requested the same might be granted & confirmed [illegible] by the State

[illegible] Kirkland Miss[illegible]

[illegible]

Nathan [illegible]

[illegible]aylor

[illegible]

Geo: Clinton

Wm Floyd

Ezra L'Hommedieu

Richd Varick

Samuel Jones

[illegible]

[illegible]

Gayhsaweale his X mark

Seaghsuwanquaes als Peter his X mark

Agwaientinowas als Tom Kitla his X mark

Jonaghshiskea als Daniel his X mark

Thanigeandagoyon his X mark

Alowistones als the Blacksmith his X mark

Heanjako als David his X mark

Kahikhlolon his X mark

Sagoyentha his X mark

Konondonyh his X mark

Hannah Sodath his X mark

Teyonghsuhakh Konwagalot his X mark

Kanongkowen Konwagalot his X mark

Konowayele his X mark

Odaghseghte his X mark

Thanughyunaja his X mark

Peter Otsiquett

Shaghniyongo his X mark

Thonigwaghshale his X mark

Tekeandyahhon his X mark

Ojistalale als Hanyery his X mark

Otsiologon his X mark

Teyohaquanda his X mark

Oneyanha alias Beech Tree his X mark

Shaghnaghtiosis als Hendrick his X mark

Thonaghlago als Anthony his X mark

Shaghtaghyunsea his X mark

Kanaghsalegh his X mark

John Post
[illegible]

We the Oneida Nation Do hereby acknowledge to have this Day received from the People of the State of New York Three hundred Dollars in full for the annuity [illegible] mentioned. Witness our hands the [illegible] June 1805 in the presence of

Angel De [illegible]

Witness our hands the [illegible]

Anthony [illegible]

Peter [illegible]

We the Oneida Nation of Indians do hereby acknowledge to have received from the People of the State of New York [illegible] hands of Isaac Denniston the Sum of three hundred [illegible] in full for the Annuity within mentioned.
Witness our hands this first day [illegible] one thousand Eight hundred and twelve

Witness present

John Schenando
Christian Carpenter
Anthony [illegible]
Thomas Schanen[illegible]
Jacob Dockstader
Martinus Denny
Neddy [illegible] — x
John Jordan

We the Oneida Nation of Indians do hereby acknowledge to have received from the People of the State of New York by the hands of Isaac Denniston the sum of [illegible] hundred Dollars in full for the Annuity within [illegible]
Witness Our hands at Oneida the [illegible] of June One thousand Eight hundred and thirteen

Witness present
J. Denniston
Wm [illegible]

their Marks
John x Schenando
Anthony x [illegible]
Jacob x Dockstader
Martinus x Denny
Augumenta x [illegible]
[illegible] — x Skenando
Peter — x Schenandoah
James — x Bread

We the Oneida Nation of Indians acknowledge to have received from the People of the State of New York by the hands of Isaac Denniston three hundred Dollars in full for our annuity within mentioned. Witness our hands the 31st day of May 1811

Witness present
[illegible] Shelling
R. [illegible]

John Schenando — their marks x
Christian Carpenter
Anthony [illegible] x
Henry Plateus — x
Capt. Peter — x
William Powlis — x
Anthony [illegible] — x

We the Oneida Nation of Indians do hereby acknowledge to have received from the People of the State of New York by the hands of Isaac Denniston three hundred dollars in full for our annuity within mentioned. Witness our hands at Oneida [illegible]

Angel De Ferrier
Daniel Peterie

We the Oneida Nation of Indians do hereby acknowledge to have received from the People of the State of New York in the hands of Isaac Denniston the three hundred dollars in full for the Annuity [illegible] Mentioned. Witness our hands at Oneida [illegible] day of June one thousand eight hundred and [illegible]

Witness present
Cornelius Peterie
Angel De Ferrier

John Skenado x
Martinis Denne x
George Dockstader x
Cornelius Date — x
William [illegible] x
Neddy Okesel x
Joseph May — x
Isaac Peter — x
Abraham White x

Marks

John x Skenando
Anthony x [illegible]
Thomas x [illegible]
Peter x [illegible]
Martines x [illegible]
Thomas x [illegible]
Johannis x [illegible]
Johannes x Peter
[illegible] — x Peter
Peter — x [illegible]
Peter — x Bread

John [illegible]
[illegible]
John [illegible] x
Cornelius [illegible] x
[illegible] x
Ph. [illegible] x
William [illegible] x
William [illegible] x

We the Oneida Nation of Indians [illegible] acknowledge to have received [illegible] the State of New York [illegible] Dollars in [illegible] Mentioned [illegible] day of [illegible]

Witness [illegible]
Angel De F[illegible]

John [illegible] x
Anthony [illegible] x
Hendrick [illegible] x
[illegible]
Jacob Dockstader x
John Jordan

We the Oneida Nation of Indians [illegible] acknowledge to have received from the People of the State of New York [illegible] Dollars in full [illegible] Mentioned for the year [illegible]
Witness our hands at Oneida this thirty first day of May 1810

In presence of
[illegible]

Powlis Onowsenta — our Marks x
Joseph [illegible] x
Cornelius [illegible] x
Adam [illegible]
[illegible]
Paul Powlis — x
[illegible] x
Jacob Dockstader — x

We the [illegible] Nation of Indians [illegible] the Christian Party do hereby for and in behalf of said Oneida Nation Acknowledge to have received this day from the People of the State of New York by the hands of Isaac Denniston [illegible] dollars in full for the Annuity within Mentioned
Witness [illegible] this first day of June 18[illegible]

In presence of
[illegible] Hobbly
[illegible]

Paul Powlis x
Moses Skenedo x
Anthony Ataliyo x
Neddy Okeguet x
Cornelius Schenyo x
Jacob Dockstader x
Martinus [illegible] x

We [illegible] acknowledge [illegible] from the People of the State of New York by the hands of Isaac Denniston [illegible] hundred dollars in full for [illegible]
[illegible] 1817

Cornelius [illegible]
Capt. Peter
Peter [illegible] x
Henry Plateus x
Cornelius [illegible] x
Paul Powlis
Neddy Okeguet
Jacob Dockstader
[illegible]
George Dockstader
[illegible]

[illegible] acknowledge [illegible] in full for the annuity [illegible] August

[illegible] from the People of the State [illegible]
32
[illegible]
Henry [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] Christian

1788
G no 22

Treaty at Fort Schuyler.
Fort formerly Stanwix.

At a treaty at Fort Schuyler formerly called Fort Stanwix in the State of New York by his excellency George Clinton, Govenor of the said State and William Leloyd, Ezra L Hommedew. Richard Varick, Samuel Jones. Egbert Benson, and Peter Gansvoort Junior (Commissioners authorized for that purpose by and on behalf of the people of the State of New York) with the tribe or nation of Indians called the Oneidas, it is on the 22nd day of September 1788 covenanted and concluded as follows; first the Oneidas do cede and grant all their lands to the people of the State of New York forever.

Secondly, of the said ceded lands the following tract, to wit: Beginning at the Wood Creek opposite to the mouth of Canada Creek and where the line of property comes to the said Wood Creek and runs thence southerly to the North West corner of the tract to be granted John Francis Peach, thence along the Westerly bounds of the

1788 9ber 22 said tract to the southwest corner thereof, thence to the northwest corner of the tract granted to James Dean, thence along the Westerly bounds thereof to the Southwest corner of the last mentioned tract: thence due South until it intercects a due west line from the head of the Tienadaha or Unedilla river: thence from the said point of intersection due west until the Deep Spring bears due north, thence due north to the Deep Spring: thence the nearest course to the Caneserage Creek: and thence along the said creek, the Oneida Lake and the Wood Creek to the place of beginning, shall be reserved for the following uses, that is to say; the lands lying to the northward of a line parallel to the Southern line of the said reserved lands, and four miles distant from the said southern line, the Oneidas shall hold to themselves and their posterity forever, for their own use and cultivation, but not to be sold leased or in any other manner aliened or disposed of to others. The Oneidas may from time to time make leases of the lands between the said parallel line (being the residue of the said reserved

1788 9mo 22 lands) to such persons and on such rents reserved as they shall deem proper; but no lease shall be for a longer term than twenty one years, from the making thereof, and no new lease shall be made until the former lease of the same lands shall have expired.

The rents shall be to the use of the Oneidas and their posterity forever; and the people of the state of New York shall from time to time make provision by law to compell the lessees to pay the rent and in every other respect enable the Oneidas and their posterity to have the full benefit of their right so to make leases, and to prevent frauds on them respecting the same; and the Oneidas, and their posterity for ever shall enjoy the free right of hunting in every part of the said ceded lands, and of fishing in all the waters within the same; and especially there shall forever remain ungranted by the people of the State of New York, one half mile square at the distance of every six miles of the lands along the northern bounds of the Oneida Lake, one half mile in breadth of the lands on each side of Fish Creek; and a convenient piece of land at

1788
9mo 22

the fishing place in the Onondago river, about three miles from where it issues out of the Oneida Lake, and to remain as well for the Oneidas and their posterity, as for the inhabitants of said State, to land and encamp on, but notwithstanding any Reservation to the Oneidas the people of the State may erect public works and edifices as they shall think proper at such place or places at or near the confluence of Wood Creek, and the Oneida Lake as they shall elect, and may take or appropriate for such works or buildings lands to the extent of one square mile at each place: and further notwithstanding any reservation of lands to the Oneidas for their own use, the New England Indians (now settled at Brother Town under the Reverend Samson Oscum) and their posterity forever, and the Stock Bridge Indians and their posterity forever, and to enjoy their settlements on the lands heretofore given to them by the Oneidas for that purpose that is to say a tract of two miles in breadth and three miles

1788 9mo 22 in length for the New England Indians, and a tract six miles square for the Stockbridge Indians.

Thirdly, in consideration of the said cession and grant, the people of the State of New York do at this treaty pay to the Oneidas two thousand dollars in money; two thousand dollars in clothing and other goods; and one thousand dollars in provissions, and also five hundred dollars in money to be paid towards building a grist-mill and a saw-mill at their village (the receipts of which moneys, clothing, goods and provisions the Oneidas do now acknowledge), and the people of the State of New York shall annually pay to the Oneidas and their posterity forever, on the first day of June in every year at Fort Schuyler aforesaid Six hundred dollars in silver. But if the Oneidas or their posterity shall at any time hereafter select that the whole or any part of said Six hundred dollars shall be paid in clothing or provisions, and give six weeks notice thereof to the Govenor of the said state for the time being

1788 9mo 22 then so much of the annual payment shall for that time be in clothing or provisions as the Oneidas and their posterity shall elect, and at the price, which the same shall cost the people of the State of New York at Fort Schuyler aforesaid, and as a further consideration to the Oneidas, the people of the State of New York, shall grant to the said John Francis Peache, a tract of land, beginning in the line of property at a certain Cedar tree near the road leading to Oneida, and runs from the said cedar tree Southerly along the line of property two miles, then Westerly at right angles to the said line of property two miles, then Northerly at right angles to the last course two miles, and thence to the place of beginning, which the said John Francis Peache hath consented to acept from the Oneidas in satisfaction for an injury done to him by one of their Nation; and Further the lands intended by the Oneidas for John T. Kirkland and for George W. Kirkland being now appropriated to the use of the Oneidas the people of the State of New York shall therefore, by a grant of other

1788 9mo 22 lands, make compensation to the said John T. Kirkland and George Wm Kirkland and further that the people of the State of New York shall, as a benevolence from the Oneidas to Peter Penet and in return for services rendered by him to their Nation, grant to the same Peter Penet of the said ceded lands lying to the Northward of the Oneida Lake, a tract of land, ten miles square wherever he shall elect the same.

Fourthly The people of the State of New York may in such much as they shall deem proper prevent any person except the Oneidas from residing or settling on the lands so to be held by the Oneidas and their posterity for their own use and cultivation; and if any person shall without the consent of the people of the State of New York come to reside or settle on the said lands or any other of the lands so ceded as aforesaid except the lands whereof the Oneidas may make leases as aforesaid. the Oneidas and their posterity shall forthwith give *Notice* of such intrusion to the Govenor of the said State for the time being; and further

1988 9mo22 the Oneidas and their posterity forever, shall, at the request of the Govenor of the said State, be aiding to the people of the State of New York in the removing of all such intruders; and in apprehending, not only such intruders, but also felons and all other offenders, who may happen to be on the said ceded land, to the end that such intruders fellons and other offenders may be brought to justice. In testimony whereof as well the Sachem, Chief, Warriors and others of the said Oneidas in behalf of their tribe or Nation. as the said Govenor and other commissioners of the people of the State of New York have hereunto interchangebly set their hands and affixed their Seals the day and year first above written.

Odaghseghte
Peter Otsiquette
Shonoughlego
Thaghniyongo
Otsetogon Oneyaha
Thaghtaghquisea
Thoughweughshole
Hanguarry

Kanayhweiga
Toyohagweahda
alias Anthony
Tekeandyahkon
alias Beech Tree
Gaghsaweda
Ojistalale alias
Thaghneghtolis alias

1788 Hendrik Kanaghsalilgs
9ber 22 Shaghsweangalolis alias Paulus
Aguelentongwus alias Domine Peter
Kahicktotan; Teyoughnihalk
Konwagalot; Zoneghfishea alias
Daniel Mawiristons; alias Black
Smith Sagoyontha Skaskonyhguea
Kanawgalet Thaniyeandagayon,
Skganyoko alias David Hannah
Sodalk Honowayon;

George Clinton, Richard Varick,
Peter Gansevoort Jr. Wm Lloyd,
Samuel Jones Skenondonga,
Ezra L. Hommedieu, Egbert Benson.
At a Treaty held at Konondaqua
New York.
November 11th 1794.

The United States confirmed this treaty of the Oneidas.

The Council met.

PHILADELPHIA, Thursday, October 2nd, 1788.

PRESENT:

The Honorable PETER MUHLENBERG, Esquire, Vice President.

Henry Hill, George Ross,
Samuel Dean, James Read,
Abraham Smith, John Baird,
David Redick, Samuel Edie.
John Smilie, Frederick Watt,
George Woods, William Maclay,
Esquires.

An order was drawn upon the Treasurer in favor of the Honorable William Maclay, Esquire, for seven pounds ten shillings, in full for his attendance Council from the twenty-third of September untill the second of October, 1788, inclusively.

On motion,

Resolved, That in cases where patents have or may hereafter issue, and when error or errors shall have crept in through the inadvertance or mistake of any of the officers concerned in the surveying or other departments of the Land Office business, and where a new patent may be necessary to rectify such mistake, the seal of the Commonwealth may be affixed without fee or reward.

Upon consideration of the report of the committee to whom were referred the several memorials from Thomas Briton and others, and from Anthony Butler, in behalf of Messieurs John Penn, Junior, and John Penn, Esquires, with the several papers accompanying the same, vizt:—That an interference by Council respecting the lots alluded to in said memorials, while a dispute is depending at law between the parties aforesaid, will be improper; it was

Resolved, That the same be adopted.

The consideration of the report of the Commissioners appointed by act of Assembly, dated the twenty-ninth of September, 1787, to survey and regulate the district of Southwark, was postpon'd.

The committee appointed to prepare a draft of instructions to the Indian Commissioners, made report of the following, which was read and adopted, vizt:

In Council, Philadelphia, October 2nd, 1788.

GENTLEMEN:—You will herewith receive a resolution of the Honorable the General Assembly of the thirteenth ultimo, together with the several resolutions of Congress, respecting the triangular piece of Country which lies adjoining Lake Erie and the northern line of Pennsylvania, by which you will find that this State is now vested with both right of jurisdiction and soil. You will likewise receive a commission for the purpose of purchasing from the Natives their claim to the soil, agreeably to the constant usage of Pennsylvania, as also a rough draft of the country in question, laid down by Mr. Ellicot, in the best manner he has been able from his present knowledge of it.

The Supreme Executive Council are very sensible of the great difficulties which you progress in this business, must be attended with not having the monies necessary for this service in your present disposal, nor would the Board by any means have imposed the task under such a circumstance, had it not been on account of the advantage which will probably result from the present Convention of these Indians at Muskingum, or perhaps the advantage of finding them at Pittsburgh on their way to their own country, might be a more favorable place, so that you will have either in your power.

The Board have great reliance on your prudence, sagacity and particular knowledge of these people, as well as a proper knowledge of their present disposition from the Continental transactions, which one of you have or are now especially conversant with. If therefore, you shall find the Indians who have just claims in a proper temper or otherwise, you will be governed accordingly, whether to commence the business at present or leave it over until you shall have prospects more favorable; it is, however, hoped that you may be able to dispose the minds of these people, at least to appoint delegates to meet at a certain future day and place, to finish what you have happily now begin.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen, with great respect,

Your most obedient and very humble servant,

PETER MUHLENBERG, V. President.

General RICHARD BUTLER and JOHN GIBSON, Commissioners for purchasing from Indians, &ca.

An order was drawn upon the Treasurer in favor of the said Commissioners, for sixty pounds, to enable them to proceed in carrying into effect the before mentioned resolutions.

War Office October 6th 1788.

Sir

In the abſence of the Secretary at War I have the honor to tranſmit to your Excellency the Copy of a letter from the Governor of the Weſtern Territory dated Fort Harmar County of Waſhington September 16th 1788. with five encloſures — Alſo an extract of a Letter From Brigadier General Harmar of the ſame date encloſing information from Major Hamtramck who is ſtationed at Poſt Vincennes dated the 12th of Auguſt laſt.

I have the Honor to be
With the higheſt reſpect
Your Excellencys Moſt
Obedient Humble Servant
Wm Knox

His Excellency
The Preſident of Congreſs.

Letter - Octr 6th 1788 -

War Office —

transmitting - letter

Sept. 16 - 1788 Govr St Clair —

Speeches of Wyandots &c -

Speech - Wilson & Chinden to the

Wyandots &c letter Augt 31st from

Wilson & Chinden to Govr St Clair

Sept. 16 - from Genl Harmar

letter Augt 14 - from Majr Hamtramck

to the Secy at War —

Read Oct. 8th 1788 -

(Copy.)

Fort Harmar County of Washington
September 14th 1788.

Sir/

I had the honor to addreſs you on the ſecond inſtant ſince which General Butler with fifty one (Women and Children included) of the Senecas arrived here, on the 9th — amongſt theſe the principal Perſons are the Corn Planter, and the Half-Town — thirty ſix men in all. They ſay the ſix Nations are deſirous to be at peace with the United States. — The next day after their arrival an application was made by theſe Cheifs, in conjunction with Cayaſutha, for the releaſment of the Chippewey Priſoners, in the name of their own Nation, the Cayugas, the Oneidas, and the Delawares; — of the Cayugas however there is one only here, and two Oneidas; and theſe laſt tho' the application was made in the name of their Nation would not come into the Tent when it was delivered; it is altogether improbable that they could have had any directions on the ſubject. They were told that the whole affair had been repreſented to their general Council — that their requeſt could not be complied with, and that we hoped to have no more ſolicitation on that head: — many of the ſame kind had been made to me.

Yeſterday two Perſons arrived from the Meſsengers — incloſed are Copies of their letter and of the Speeches of the Wyandots, delivered to them and by them — from theſe it appears that the Wyandots are well diſpoſed themſelves and that was not with me a doubtful circumſtance; but I ſuſpect they will not have much influence upon the weſtern

Tribes, who notwithſtanding what the Kickapoes ſay, I have not the leaſt expectation to ſee. - The other Nations will be here, but it will yet be three weeks or a Month before they arrive. One of the men (Iſaac Williams) who brought theſe deſpatches is the ſon of a white woman; lives at Sanduſky a ſenſible young Man, and has received a tolerable education, and is attached to the United States - He ſays that Brandt did not go with the Senecas from Niagara but that he left them there, and paſsed up the North ſide of Lake Erie, and as far as the country of the Miſsaſsagues, and returned down the Huron and St. Clair to Detroit, viſiting the different Nations in his way.

From the letter of the Meſsengers it may be obſerved that a large Body of Indians may be expected here - that they are particular in mentioning their intention to be Armed - and that tho' they themſelves have been delayed ſo long, by the deſire of the Wyandots that they might be preſent at their Councils, they are not to be admitted to them; but are ſent to a diſtance and ordered to wait the reſult. - On theſe I make no comment. - It is alſo ſomewhat extraordinary that the Britiſh ſhould take this opportunity again to make preſents to the Indians after having ſo recently made them the moſt conſiderable that ever were given, at one time - it is alſo uncommon, if I am rightly informed (for the Six Nations at leaſt) to take ſo many of their young Men with them to Council - their numbers arrived at Detroit are ſtated to me at two hundred, and ſeventy-five, and another embarkation from

Niagara expected — From all theſe circumſtances, which certainly wear not a very favorable aſpect, it may perhaps be expected by Congreſs that ſome meaſures ſhould be taken by General Harmar and me, in conſequence of the Reſolution of Congreſs of the 12th of Auguſt, for the protection of the Inhabitants at all events:— I do not however ſee that we can poſsibly do more than merely to have the Militia in readineſs to act upon an emergency, and that, if the Executives of Virginia and Pennſylvania comply with my requeſts, mentioned in my laſt to have been made to them, they will be— But Sir it is very little protection they will be able to afford. Defenſive meaſures, againſt an enemy who allways act in ſmall detachments, along ſo extended and weak a frontier, at the ſame time that they are as expenſive (in the end often more ſo) than offenſive operations, will always prove abortive— and the Militia of Pennſylvania and Virginia are too diſtant from each other to be joined; that part at leaſt of the frontier of Virginia from which a thouſand men could be drawn— Offenſive meaſures ſhould then be reſorted to. but theſe the ſtate of public affairs forbid, if they can poſsibly be avoided— and nothing in my power to obviate the neceſsity of them will be neglected— But a war with the Weſtern tribes, at leaſt, ſeems inevitable, both from the circumſtance that there is no reaſon to expect them at the Treaty, and from the intelligence General Harmar received two days ago which as he tranſmits it by this opportunity I forbear to trouble you with— a war with them will probably involve ſome others; and it will ſoon become general— In that caſe permit me to give you my Ideas of the moſt effectual manner of bringing them to their Senſes.

From the Falls of the Ohio to Ouiatannon is little more than one hundred and fifty Miles — from the little Miami to the Omie or Miami Town is not more than tw Hundred, if my information is right — from Beaver Cree to Cayahoga is ninety; and from Post Vincennes to the Terre Haute, where the Piankeshaws reſide, and to the ſettlements of the Kickapoos is about the ſame diſtance — Could a ſtroke be made at all theſe places, nearly abo the ſame time, and it might be ſo calculated as to happ at all of them on the ſame day, the Indians would mo likely ſo divide themſelves, as to make them at each highly probable; for may be aſsured, that their general confederacy, if it exiſ at all, has not that efficiency which would enable the heads of it to direct its force to a point; in the ſecurity of which many of the Members would not feel themſelv much intereſted, when each had to fear for themſelves ſeparately — it is difficult enough among Nations wh have a regular policy and ſtrong governments, where Ideas of Union and ſubmiſsion are familiar — with Sa it is impoſsible — Neither would theſe operations dema a very great number of Men or very conſiderable expe — between three and four thouſand Militia, added to the troops in the ſervice of the United States, might be ſuffi-cient and ſurely theſe might be furniſhed by the front parts of Virginia and Pennſylvania, and in ſuch a manner as to be convenient to their reſpective deſtinati — The French ſettlements too could eaſily if I am wel informed, give three or four hundred Men. — The whole operation might I conceive if undertaken at a proper ſeaſ be finiſhed in thirty or forty days from the time they took up their march, tho the calculation ſhould be for a longer period.

I am ſenſible Sir theſe obſervations require an apology, both becauſe I have ſtepped out of my line, and that they have not been ſo maturely conſidered as the importance of the object demands — they are meant only as hints of what might be done which you would not be diſpleaſed with, and as ſuch I requeſt you to conſider them.

The addreſs of the Meſſengers to the Wyandots and Delawares though perhaps well enough in ſubſtance, is in my opinion highly improper in form; neither did I know they were ſo inſtructed, and General Butler aſſures me they were not — I ſhould certainly have objected againſt an application in the name of the United States, to any Nation on Earth; much more to a few Savages, "for them to uſe their intereſt, and influence for the reſtoration of Priſoners." taken in Peace too and in violation of Treaties — It may have ariſen from a deſire to do good, with much ignorance of the proper means, and if it would reſt with thoſe nations there would be no great harm — but if it is communicated to the Britiſh Agent which it probably will be the United States may be expoſed by it.

There is intelligence which I believe may be depended upon, that the Indians at the mouth of the Wabaſh having been diſcovered, a party from Kentucky went to attack them — that miſsing them there, they croſsed and marched to the Salines (or Salt River I believe of Mr Hutchins) went up that River to its head branches, and croſsed from thence to the upper part of the Riviere de l'embarras, where they fell in with and had an action with Indians, ſome of whom were killed — They returned by Poſt Vincennes and Clarkes Track to the falls, and brought in with them Six Scalps, Seven Rifles, and twenty Horſes — But whether theſe were the Indians that made the Stroke at the mouth of the Wabaſh or not does not appear.

I have the Honor to be &c

(Signed)

Ar. St. Clair.

The Hon.ble Major General Knox
Secretary at War.

P. S. I ſuppoſe the following numbers might ſuffice for all the objects mentioned above.

To March from Poſt Vincennes . .	. 500.
. from the Falls	. 1000.
. + from Limeſtone a little above the little Miami. —	1400 & 2 pieces
. from Beaver Creek. . .	1000
	3900 & 2 pieces

+ At the Omie Town there is a Fort conſtructed for the Savages by the Britiſh. — —

Letter from the Governor of the Western
Territory to the Secty. at War dated
Fort Harmar 14th Sept. 1788

(Copy)

Extracts of a letter from Major Hamtramck to Brigadier General Joſiah Harmar, dated

Poſt Vincennes Augt. 12th 1788.

Dear General/

The 27th July a party of Soldiers conſiſting of thirty Six under the command of Lieut. Peters, which I had ordered to the Mouth of the Wabaſh to bring up and eſcort a quantity of Proviſions, were attacked about two Miles from the Ohio by a party of fifty Indians— the loſs was conſiderable, ten men killed an eight wounded. —Two Perogues that contained the greateſt part of the Cargo fell into the hands of the enemy, and as the indians lined both ſhores of the River, Mr. Peters made for the Kaſkaſkias in order to ſecure the remainder of the Public Stores. —

This miſchief I have no doubt was committed by the Indians who were in Town when the party went down, for that day thirty Indians left the Village on Horſeback and have not yet returned.

Mr. Peters is not yet returned, and I do not expect him before the 25th— I fear for him as he muſt come from Kaſkaſkias by land.

Since I have wrote the above an Indian that I had ſent as an expreſs to the Mouth of the Wabaſh is returned and tells me that he has ſeen a large Canoe in which was eighteen paddles, that it appeared to him to come from below, that he alſo traced the path the Enemy had made, and that it went down the river which induced him to believe that they were Cheroke that had made the ſtroke – I have alſo three other Men down the river that I had ſent in a Canoe, thinking they would ſee Mr Peters, I have not had the leaſt information of them – perhaps they not finding Mr Pete have taken the ſame route, as I am told Mr Peters left in writing on a Board, the accident he had met with.

Jean Baptiſte Conſtan the interpreter from the Weea you had laſt year, is now in Town, and tells me that he has been to the Miami, at which place he ſtaid ſome time, and that every day five and ſix ſcalps were brought in by thoſe Indians – that a number of our Priſoners were burnt – he alſo tells me, that when he left the Weea Village, a Courier had arrived from Capt McKee the Britiſh Commiſsioner for Indian Affairs to requeſt their Chiefs to attend to a Treaty that was to be at La Roche Dubout, which is about thirty ſix miles from Detroit on this ſide, that the Chiefs were gone and not yet returned – Pakane the Indian Chief who went after the Drummer, the deſerter laſt year and a good Indian, is going to the Miami, and will know the reſult of this Council – I have repeatedly ſent word to the Wabaſh Indians that Congreſs would not ſuffer their ſubjects to be killed every day - that they no doubt would be chaſtiſed if they continued to commit depredations, and the only anſwer is, "that it is their Young men, and they cannot prevent it."

(Signed)

J. F. Hamtramck

Brigadier General Joſiah Harmar.

Extracts of a letter from Major J. F.
Hamtramck dated Post Vincennes Aug.
12th 1788 to Brigr. Genl. Harmar.

(Copy) [illegible]

Extract of a letter from Brigadier General Harmar to the Secretary at War dated

Fort Harmar Sept.r 14th 1788.

Sir/

"Captain Zeigler arrived at this poſt on the 9th Inſtant with his Company — Total fifty ſix — Eſcorting the Corn Planter, Half town, an Oneida Chief, and ſeveral of the Six Nations; amounting in the whole to about fifty — including Men, Women and Children in order to attend the Treaty.

I have the mortification to inform you that on the 27th July laſt a party of thirty ſix men under the command of Lieutenant Peters, who were detached by Major Hamtramck to bring up Proviſions was attacked on the Wabaſh near its mouth by the Savages — Ten of the party were killed, and eight wounded."

(Signed)
Joſiah Harmar.

The Hon.ble Major General Knox
Secretary at War.

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Extract of a letter from Brigr Genl
Harmar to the Secretary at War
Dated Fort Harmar Septr 16th [illegible]

(Copy.)

Detroit Rivers Mouth 23d. July 1788.

Speech delivered by the Wyandots in behalf of themselves, Mohawks, & Chippewas, Pootewatamies and Mingoes to the Kickapoo Chiefs from the Wabash.

Young Brothers Kickapoos.

Listen to your elder brothers the Wyandots &

With these ſtrings of wampum we open your ears that you may hear what we have to ſay to you, and cleanse your ſtomachs that what we have to ſay may ſet on eaſy on them.

(Four ſtrings white wampam)

Brothers!

We who are now ſpeaking to you are always about and near our father, and we know well what he thinks, and we listen to what he ſays to us - This pipe, which we now present to you is a good pipe - We who are here have tried it, and our father who lives there has alſo tried it - It is good, and has a long ſtem which reaches all the way from hence to the ſeven nations near Montreal in Canada - We all think one thing - We now put this good pipe into your hands, and hope that you will think nothing but peace as we do, that you may try how far you can make it reach up the Miami-river, and as far beyond your towns - We alſo hope, that all our young brothers in that country will think as we do — (vg½)

(A large green Pipe, with a long ſtem, work'd over with porcupine quills of different colours.)

Brothers the Kickapoos!

Liſten to what we ſay to you! It is a long time ago that our father called upon us to aſsiſt him in warring agai our brothers of the United States, and it is alſo a long time ſince he told us he had done fighting with them, and that he had made peace, and desired all his children to do the ſame, to be quiet, and not go to war any more, or do any mischief to our brothers of the United States, but to lay down our Tomhawks, which we accordingly did. — We thought all our young brothers had done the ſame; but brothers, we ſtill think we ſee ſome of our young brothers on the Miami, and Wabash rivers holding up their Tomhawks yet. We now brothers beg they may all lay them down, and think of nothing but peace, as we do, and as our father directs us.

Brothers.

We now hear that our Brothers of the United States are calling upon us and all other nations to their council fire — This brothers you may be aſsured, is true — The men are here who have been ſent to us for that purpose (there ſets one of them before you) — We brought them here that all nations may ſee them, and believe that their brothers of the United States wish to be at peace with them. Brothers! — We beg that you and all our young brothers will liſten to what our brothers of the United States have to ſay to us. It is alſo our father's advice to us — he tells us, that it will be good for us and alſo our women and children.

Brothers!

We are not as other nations are. We, the Wyandots — We are chriſtians, and know that the Great Creator of all things will be angry with us, when we do bad things, and will not take advice — We wish that all our young brothers in your country would take our advice, and be at peace with our brothers of the United States. By our young brothers not listening to good advice is the reaſon ſo many of their young men have lately fallen; and if they continue to do evil the great God will be yet more angry with them, and greater numbers muſt fall — If they will be at peace, and liſten to what their Brothers of the United States have to ſay to them and to the advice of their fathers and friends, their women and children may grow up in peace, and they may become a great people.

(A large Belt of White Wampum.)

The Kickapoo Chiefs returned thanks for the good advice, and for what they had heard and aſſured the others Nothing ſhould be wanting or left undone that was in their power to eſtablish peace between all their young brothers in that country, and their brothers of the United States — That the reason, so many foolish people were doing mischief to their brothers of the United States this spring was, that all the good speeches sent from either them or their father went under the ground at the Miami Town, and bad ones sent forward in the room of them and that the road from their town to this Council-fire was so grown up with bushes and thorns that it was with difficulty they found the way thither.

(A few strings wampum)

(No.1.) — Speech —
Wyandots, in behalf of themselves,
Mohawks, Chippewas, Pautawatamies and Mingoes, to the Kickapoos — delivered 22d July 1790
(Copy.)

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(No. 2.) — Speech. —

Wyandots, to the other nations
at Detroit River – July 23. 1790 –
and a Speech of the Ottawas the
Same day ———

(Copy.)

In Council – Mouth of Detroit River –

July 22d 1788.

Present –

The Wyandots, Ottawas, Chippewas, Powtewatamies and Muncies –

A Speech by Shandalo, in behalf of the Wyandots, to the other nations present: –

"Brothers! I am glad to find that what we ſaid to our young brothers the Kickapoos yesterday ſeemed to please them, and that they ſeem willing to take our advice, – We ſhall now ſpeak to them again –

"Young Brothers! – The Kickapoos! – Listen to your elder brothers the Wyandots, Ottawas, Chippewas, Powtowatamies and Muncies – Brothers! You told us yesterday, that all the good ſpeeches that go from us, or our father, towards your towns, goes under the ground at the Miami Town; and that you found the road to our Council Fire ſo grown up with bushes and thorns, that it was with difficulty you found the way here –

"Brothers! We now open road for you to return from whence you came, – We clear all the bushes and thorns out of it ſo that they may not ſcratch your face, but that you may ſee your way clear, and not be in danger of any harm.

(Five ſtrings of white and black wampum delivered)

Young Brothers-Kickapoes! Liſten to us your elder brothers. We now deliver into your charge the invitation from our brothers of the United States to the Miamies to call them to their Council Fire at the falls of the Muskingum - Alſo a large belt to go through your towns to call all Indian Nations between that and the Miſsiſsippi to that council fire - We alſo now take you by the hands and lead you to the council fire of the United States - We alſo clear and open the road from your towns to that place - the falls of the Muskinguem, ſo that you you may ſee the way clear and plain - This road will lead you to the fartheſt of our towns which is the way we ſhall go to that council fire. - Brothers! - Be ſtrong - and don't fail to go, for it is good for us all, to go to it, and be at peace with our brothers of the United States - You may believe the words you have heard from them. here ſits the two men that are ſent to invite all nations - We brought them here to our council-fire that all nations may ſee them, and believe the words they hear from them.

(Delivered, with five ſtrings of white and black wampum)

A Speech in Council, by the Chippewas, from Sagana and Niagara.

Brothers Wyandots - We have heard with attention your ſpeeches, to our young brothers the Kickapoes - We thank you for your good advice to them - We alſo think as you do - All is very right that you have ſaid to them, and we are very glad to ſee and hear what you have done at your # council fire – We think all is very right – I must return to Segana to tell our Chiefs what has been done here; they ſent me to ſee and hear what was doing – I cannot go to ſee our brothers of the United States until I return from Segana – I must go home to get clothes, for I am quite naked.

Brother – We from Niagara have been twelve days from that place – we ſhould have been here ſooner, only waiting for the ſix nations – They ſent to us after that they were ready to come – At last we could wait no longer for them – We expected they would come up with us on the way – We have been ſix days here and no accounts of them as yet.

(A few ſtrings of white and black wampum from each)

In Council, July 23rd 1788.

A Speech by Augushaw, Chief of the Ottawas, to the other nations present.

Brothers, Wyandots &c – We have now finished our ſpeeches to our young brothers the Kickapoos – We think all you have ſaid them is very right – It ſeems as if it went to their hearts – They ſeem to like what we ſaid to them – You ſpoke the words for us all that are here present, which is the ſame as if we ſpoke with one mouth – We all think one thing – I think and hope it will do our young brothers good – I well know that our father will approve of what we have ſaid to them when we inform him of it

Brothers — We thank you for what you have ſai to our young brothers — I hope that all the nations here present will listen to what you ſay, and take your advice, and go an listen to our brothers of the United States that are now callin us, to their council fire, for who can ſay the ſpeeches we have received, from them is not true — Here are the two men present who are ſent with them to us — We alſo return you our thank brothers Wyandots, for bringing these two men to our council fi that all nations may ſee them, and believe the words which the hear from them — It will be best for us all to go and listen to our brothers of the United States, that our women and children may live and grow up in peace. ——

(Copy.)

In Council – Detroit River's Mouth,

August 29th 1788.

A Speech by the Wyandots, in behalf of themselves, Ottaways, Chippewas and Powtawatamies—

Brothers! Meſsengers from the United States

It is a long time ſince you came to this place to attend our council fire. No doubt but you are quite tired here, therefore we now tell you to rise up and go as far as lower Sandusky where you will remain until you hear from us again and ſend your young man on to Muskingum with this meſsage &c.

Brothers of the United States!

You tell us to ſend you an anſwer to your ſpeeches — We now anſwer them — You tell us to be ſtrong, and help to move back the cloud that has lately risen — We have done ſo, and We, the Wyandots, Ottawas, Chippewas, and Powtewatamies ſee the ſun ſhine clear on the good works that we are about; for it is all very good, and we hope that the great Spirit above has appointed a day for you and us to meet, and ſettle all our matters — To morrow, the Six Nations ſets out for the rapids on the Miami river — In four days, we, the Wyandots, Ottawas, Chippewas, Powtewatamies and Muncies, ſhall follow them — We ſhall ſit down at that place a few days to ſmoke our pipes after which we ſhall

all rise up on our feet again, and go to your council fire, at which time you ſhall hear from us again.

(Four ſtrings of white wampum.)

1

(No. 3) – Speech –

Wyandots in behalf of them-
-selves, Ottawas, Chippewas &
Pawtewatamies – Aug. 29. 1700

(Copy)

280

(Copy:)

Detroit River's mouth, August 30th 1788.

Brothers- Wyandots, Ottawas, Chippewas, and Pottewatamies!

Listen to your brothers, meſſengers from the Thirteen United States!

— You told us yesterday, to riſe up from this your Council fire, and go as far as Lower Sandusky, where we are to wait until we hear from you again, and in the mean time to ſend our young men to inform Governor St Clair that you are just ready to riſe up, and proceed to the Miamie River, where you are to ſmoke your pipes for a few days.

Brothers!

We will ſet out for Sandusky to morrow, or next day, agreeable to your requests but we think it best to ſend this man off from this immediately, as our being ſo long here and not yet been able to inform our employers how ſoon they may expect to ſee the chiefs of the different nations at their council-fires. No doubt but they are looking and, wiſhing much to hear that their brothers are on their feet, and coming to ſee them — This will be ſome ſatiſfaction to them that they are on their way, altho' the time that you will be there is not yet fixed.

Brothers! Wyandots.

We are inſtructed by our employers to apply to our brothers- the Wyandots and Delawares, in the name of the

United States, for them to uſe their interest and influence with those foolish people who have been guilty of taking priſoners and doing other mischief to the people of the United States, thro' the courſe of the last winter, and ſpring, or ſince the last treaties in order that all the priſoners may be ſent home to their relations: This Brothers we defered mentioning until your meeting at the Ottawa-river would take place where we expected to have been preſent, when the Delaware Chiefs and Shawaneſe and Miamies, and other nations would meet you there to counſel; ſo that we could mention this matter when the Delaware Chiefs were preſent and perhaps ſome of the people who have these priſoners in poſſeſſion might have been there ſo that they might have been at the ſame time ſpoke to, in case you chose to do it.

Brothers!

As you are now ſending us to Sandusky, which will put it out of our power to mention this matter in the preſence of the Delaware Chiefs, and as we cannot be accountable to our employers ſhould we leave your councils without mentioning this matter, therefore all we can ſay at present is to request you our brother Wyandots—that when you meet the Delawares, Shawanoeſe and Miamies, at the Miami-river at the council that we underſtand you are about to hold there; that you will mention this matter to them in order that ſuch of these prisoners who yet remain amongst the different nations may be taken in and delivered up, that they may receive theirs that are amongst us, ſo that the bleſſing of the Great ſpirit above may pour down on the good works you are now about.

Brothers!

Governor St. Clair, in his last letter to us ſays that he wishes much to receive an anſwer to his ſpeech to different nations at this places - It is ſome considerable time past ſince it has been delivered here - So ſoon as the different nations can consider of an anſwer to it, they will please to ſend it to us at Sandusky, which we ſhall immediately ſend to the Governor.

Brothers!

The ſeaſon is far advanced - It will be neceſsary that you be as expeditious in your buſineſs at the Miami River as poſsible - We ſhall be glad when we hear that you and the different nations are proceeding on your journey to upper Sanduſky where we hope the Great Spirit above will enable us to meet you before long.

(Signed) { Wm. Wilſon
James Rinkin

(No. 10.) — Speech —

Wilson and Rankin – to
the Wyandots, Ottawas &c
Aug.t 30. 1790

(Copy.)

Detroit Rivers Mouth, August 23d 1788.

Sir

We received your favor by George Loveleſs on the 17th inſtant I ſhould have wrote you and ſent him back immediately were it not endeavoring to get ſome deciſive anſwer from theſe people with reſpect to the time of meeting, as well as for them to anſwer your meſsages to them which they have put off from day to day until the 29th, when they delivered the encloſed ſpeech directing us to go as far as the Lower Sandusky and to remain there until we heard from them – Yeſterday we delivered to them the encloſed anſwer to it – ſince which they have deſired us to remain here until the chiefs return from the Fort which will be in a day or two when they will ſpeak to us again in the mean time to ſend George Loveleſs to let you know they are juſt ready to move – Colonel Brandt arrived with his people at Detroit on the 10th inſtant – has been here nine days, ſince which they have had the Ottawas and Chippewas here counſelling – Colonel Brandt ſets out this morning for the Miami River with his party about two hundred and fifty men, all armed, including women three hundred, he has drawn proviſions to take that number to Muskingum – Theſe nations here are to meet the Delawares, Shawaneſe and Pouteuwatamies and Miamies, at the Miami River – then to hold a council there before they ſet out for your place.

Colonel Brandt has lately told us that they cannot fix a day of meeting with you nor anſwer your meſsage about the affair at Muskingum until that council is over, which may not be these three weeks to come - It appears to us more likely that ſo ſoon as the Wyandot Chiefs return from Detroit, we ſhall be ſent home, yet we find this plan of ſending us from among them did not originate among this nation - It appears to us clear the indians mean to meet you, but as to their numbers we are at a loſs - It is our opinion they mean to be numerous - We think there won't be leſs than a thouſand men, all armed, besides women and children.

Mr. Wilſon was up at Detroit the 27th, where he met the ſoldier, John Siddons, who was taken from the falls of the Muskingum, returning from Makana after being reſcued from the Indians by the commanding officer of that post - The Indians had prepared ſticks to give the priſoner the uſual welcome when the Captain who commanded that post with his party got to the ſide of the Iſland where the indians landed - the captain took the priſoner by the hand and marched him off, and gave orders that if the indians attempted to beat the priſoner for the ſoldiers to fire on them - Mr. Wilſon left this man with Captain McKee to take to the Miami River in a boat where he is going in a day or two with a quantity of goods to distribute among the indians when collected there - Shortly after Colonel Brandt arrived we had an opportunity of writing to General Butler at Pittsburg -

as he had directed us — this was before we received your letter

We are Sir.
yr. &c —

(Signed) { Wm. Wilſon.
James Rinkin

(A.P.) - Letter -

Wilſon & Rinkin to the —
Governor of the Western territory.
Detroit Rivers mouth Augt. 31st 1790

(Copy.)

enough who would receive the Money, by which means they probably would not have another Opportunity of Uniting themselves, Finally Concluded to Sell Mr. Philips the Lands Between the Genesea River and the division Line between the States of New York & Maſsachusetts. and twelve Miles on this Side of the Genesea River till within two Miles of Canawagoras Village about twenty five Miles from the Lake, this he after Some time agreed to take tho far Short of his Expectations for which he pays them 5000, Dollars, & 500 Annually for ever. The Leases pay them 15000 Dollars and 1000, and have given a final acquittance to the Indians for all the Territory now in their poſseſsion VIZ. from the Genesea River to Presque Isle. —

Adreſs of the Chiefs &c. of the Six Nations and Western Confederacy to Governor St. Clair. 19th Novr. 1788. — Against the Muskingum Treaty —

Brother,

We have received your answer to the Meſsage we Sent you from upper Sandusky, by Captain David, are sorry you cannot comply with our Request although you acknowledge that the falls of Musking- was the place appointed by Congreſs for our meeting to be held at. — That you should from the misconduct of a few individuals who live at a great dist and who you intimate was the Cause of the

Council fire being extinguished at the Appointed place, after you had lighted it, those people were of the Chippewas Nation and but little concerned in endeavouring to bring About a Union with you,— that you should from their improper conduct refuse to attend us, We look upon it extreemily hard, particularly so as we have been exerting ourselves for Several Years past, to bring the whole of the Indian Nations of this Country to Agree to come to some terms of peace with the United States, — But as you say, the Council fire is so totally extinguished that there is not even one Spark left alive and that you cannot possibly meet us ——.

Brother

We think we have now done every thing that lies in our power towards Coming to some terms, and having a personal explanation, when matters might be more fully understood by both Sides, but as that Seemingly cannot be, owing to your backwardness. — We again repeat that we are Still ready and willing to Attend you at the place that was first Appointed and that you need be no ways Apprehensive of Ill usage. —

Brother

You mention that if we have any proposals to make that you send Mr Wilson who will — receive them and return to you, in consequence of which, as we cannot think of going further unless the Offer we now make you is agreed to, — this is our last and full determination it being what was agreed upon by the Confederate Indian Nations that were lately Aſsembled at the Mia River, and for the true performance of which, We the five Nations and Wyandots will be responsib as any Agreement that is now made is by the consent of the Confederacy, and differs widely from the Councils held by Genl. Butler, which was only with a few Nations and those not authorised to transact any Busineſs which Concerned the whole, therefore any thing that was done with him we lay Aside, as we cannot agree to abide to the unreasonable demands that were made by him & agreed to by those few who Attended, and it must have been well known would never meet with the concurrence of all of us. —

Brother

As it is our wish to live in peace with all men, and to put and end to any further uneasineſs on either Side, to convince the world that it is far from our desire to enter into a War without the Greatest reason Indeed, — As the Great Spirit Above has been pleased to place us in this Country; which untill the Late unhappy War Between Great Britain and America we enjoyed peaceably; We look upon ourselves to be Masters and only true proprietors of it, to avoid further trouble we propo to give to the United States all the Lands lying on the East side Muskingum running along

Said river to the old Fort built at Tuscarawa 1764, thence along said river to the south end of the Portage that leads to Cayahoga, from said south end of the Portage in a Strait and direct line, untill it Strikes the old Fort at the mouth of Venango and thence down the Ohio to the mouth of Said Muskingum, all the Lands comprehended within said boundaries we are willing to grant You for ever without the least Expectation of receiving any thing in Lieu, this is the Boundry line that we the Confederate Indian Nations have thought proper to point out, and which we cannot Exceed —

Brother,

As the season is far advanced we must request your answer as soon as poſsible — in case of non Compliance, your reasons, then probably we may be better informed, — Against our Meſsenger returns, the rest of the Nations will be come up, then if our proposals Should be agreed to, We may go in a body to ratify them.

Novr. 30th

Brother,

Your speech to us the five Nations and likewise one directed to the five Nations, Wyandots, Shawanese, &c, and all the Nations that were lately aſsembled at the Miamis River, was presented us by your Meſsenger, in Consequence of which as we were the people who sent the Speech of the 19th instant being answerable for our proposals being abided to by the whole of the Indian Nations, We the Cayugas, Onondagas, Mohawks Tuscaroras, Talkichroanies, and Munsees being part of the Nations your General Speech is directed to — As we mentioned in our last against we Should receive your Answer the whole of the Nations would be come up, — in that we have been Mistaken as our Amunition is nearly exhausted we cannot think of remaining longer as the Shawanese, Delawares &c. are on their way we may meet them and Shall communicate the purport of your Speech to them, and all other Nations concerned. — are sorry we have not been able to accomplish the good work of establishing a peace as was our wish, and which the Large tract of Country we offered you gratis, must convince every person that peace is our wish. —

Brother.

You say that we again asked you to rise and meet us at the falls, — we did not immediately ask you to meet us — but that we were Still ready and willing to meet you at the Appointed place and that you need not be apprehensive of Ill usage. — You say we mistake you much, when we mention you sent Wilson to receive proposals — that you sent him to receive an answer whether we would come or not, and that you would receive proposals at the place you was. — We sent our answer by him that we could not go, and by him we sent our proposals which you received, — we cannot perceive the difference whether You received them (as long as you did receive them) by him or by the hands of the Indians, You received them at Fort Harmer, the place You mentioned you would receive them, We sent some of our principle men to accompany him, our reason for sending our answer and proposal in writing was that your Interpreter is not capable of explaining matters to you, At the Same time you tell us, if we do not Comply with what was done at those petty Councils held with Genl. Butler, that you had other Measures to take, — You ask us whether those people whose names you point were not Chiefs — We allow some were but not a Sufficient Number to dispose of a Country belonging to so many different Nations — neither were those people authorised to transact business of consequence. —

Brother,

You say we put our Lands under the protection of the King of England long before the dispute between You and them, from which time we gave him a right to dispose of our Country — In that You are much mistaken for we never did, if it was as You say where would have been the Necessity of the meeting at Fort Stanwix in 1768, when a Boundary line was fixed upon by the Governors of the different provinces and the Indians — You again say what are the great presents we so frequently receive from the British for? but as a Compensation for the loſs of our Country and that the large sums of Gold and Silver lately distributed amongst the five Nations and some others, but Expreſsly for that purpose.— We are sorry You should be so much misinformed an must tell you for what we received those presents an Cash — The presents we receive from the King of England is in Consideration of past Services — The Money was to those who left some good Farms, some houses, some stock, and others Cloathing of different kinds Money was not given to the whole of the Nations, only to those who it was well known lost their property — If we gave the King a Right to dispose of our Country, why does he when he wants any of our Lands make regular purchases, — And that by the treaty of peace he gave up our Lands to you, where then was the Neceſsity of your calling Councils to Fort Stanwix, Beaver Creek and the Miamis, at all which you asked us for the Country. — Not as a Country given to you by the King of England, but as the property of the Indians. —

Brother.

You also tell us our proposals are altogether Inadmiſsible — pray why were we not told wh we Sent to Congreſs after our Meeting at the Huron Village that there was no poſsibility of making any alterations respecting the Lines — it would have saved us a great deal of trouble and fatigue — As to your saying that we may expect Assistance from the British — No we do not, nor have they ever given us the least encouragement to think so. — but quite the reverse and have ever advised us to make peace with the United States — in fact we put no more confidence in them than we do in any other civilized Nation, who we know always have their own Interest in View — You say you are now at peace with them, and soon may be in friendship, that part we must acknowledge is above our comprehension, whether you expect to be Subject to them or in Alliance, we cannot conceive. —

Brother,

We have pointed out to you in our last the lands we were willing to give you, exceed that we cannot, hope it will not be long before you'll hear more from us on the Subject, and that you'll consider Seriously — If we find there is no other means left but that you must and will have our Country We now tell you we have our feelings and our Spirit, and must leave the event to the will of the Great Spirit, to whom we look up for Justice, And who knows the hearts of all men, and that we are peaceably inclined and Nothing is further from our wish than entering into a War. —

Brother,

You say the king gave you our Country the posts we allow he did, which he had a right to do

What then is the reason You do not take them, whi we acknowledge is yours Agreeable to the treaty of peace between the British and You. —

Strings Wampum
( ).

Licking Creek 8th Decr. 1788

Sir

Agreeable to our expectations we have met the Shawanese, Delawares, Munsees and Mingoes have communicated the purport of your speeches, to what we sent in behalf of the Nations that were lately aſsembled at the Miamis rapids. They are of the same opini with us, that nothing more can be done; than what we have offered, at least untill such time as the whole of the Confederacy is made acquainted, as any thing that we might as individuals do, would be paid little attention to by the whole, as no busineſs of consequence is to be transacted without the Unanimous Consent of all Concerned.

I am Brother in behalf of the five Nations. Shawanese, Delawares, Munsees and Mingoes.

(Sign'd) Jos: Brant

Govr. St. Clair
Fort Harmer

"there. & let them hear his voice once more".
"And from the very bottom of my heart
"I earnestly desire you Father to visit us
"& that immediately - before you go down the
"Country - for our Situation, is gloomy - both
"in respect to civil & religious affairs -
" Father, we salute you - ~~[illegible]~~ this is all
"we have to say - Atjaktadye, is my name, I ~~he~~ write
this, by order of the Chiefs

Jacob Reed -
Kanonwalohale ~~is my Name~~ -
24th. Nov - 1788 -

This Jacob Reed (who was one of Dr. Wheelock's Scholars) I have heretofore mentioned to the Commissrs in one of my Journals - as a person of good abilities & capable of rendering great service to his nation should he persevere in his resolution, to lead a sober & virtuous life - he was very useful for some time as a School master - & bid fair to become one of their first Counsellors - till the begining of the last Year, temptations proved too strong for him - his appetite for strong Liquors liquor returned — & raged more violent than ever ~~that~~ he has for some time ~~been giving~~ given himself up to one continued scene of Dissipation ~~to my great greif~~ — which has occasioned me, inexpressible greif — & disappointed all my raised hopes concerning him. — he has now set out for a second reformation — but time must prove the strength of his resolutions & restore him again to ~~Christianity~~ the confidence of his nation.

26 — Wedy last evening, had a conference with Good Peter for several hours — & a very affectionate address to me personally. — he made me acquainted very minutely with the state of my people during my tour to the westward ~~people~~ — & the artifices made use of by the french traders ~~party~~ to increase their Influence — & introduce an easier religion — & broader path than a presbyterian doctrines would admit of. — The history of their plausible speeches & ungenerous suggestions to both the Oneidas & Senekas — for the two years past would contain a volume. I would only make this general observation — that, whatever be their motives & views whether commercial, or political — they appear to ~~me~~ to be playing the same

some game over, with the Americans since the peace, which they did with the British, at ye close of the french war — ~~the Indians at Buffaloe Creek told me~~, — The Indians, at Buffaloe Creek told me, that reports & speeches, had not only passed thro' the five nations — but gone even to the Ohio ~~[illegible]~~ purporting that the french Nation were the ~~only~~ true friends of Indians — & to be confided in — & that they would, before long have the government of all the Indian Nations. —

27 Thursday — I sat out for Oneida, (designing to take the small Village of Oriske in my way) early yesterday morning — ~~marched~~ the whole day in a Snow storm — travelled about 20 miles & lodged in the vicinity of Oneida — I was so fatigued — & my feet so swelled with the extreme bad travelling — that I was obliged to lie still this day & recruit.

28 — arrived at Old Oneida, or New-Stockbridge — attended an agreeable & most friendly conference with the Stockbridge Indians & ~~Some of the Oneidas~~ ~~we passed [illegible]~~, till near midnight concluded with singing & prayer — before we

I consented to appoint a lecture next monday — at their earnest we presented, I consented to appoint ... before -, as their people would soon disperse - in order to save their provis- & not return till the latter end of February next. —

29th - Saturday - this morning, one of the Oneida Chiefs, with a young warrior from Kanonwalohale came to N. Stockbridge, to accompany me to their village. arrived there towards evening. —

30 - LD. - preached from Job - 21 - 7 - "Wherefore do the wicked, become old; yea, are mighty in power?" —

PM. from Luke - 23 - 41, 42. and when he was come near, we beheld y City, & wept over it -

In the Evening from Ephes - 4. 18. - having the understanding darkened &c Baptized two Children.

my people universally attended, even those who are called the french party - I have not known a more general meeting for these two years past, & some appeared to be very much affected - & were in tears thro' the whole evening lecture.

I am told, that my second sermon, has given great offence to some who have lately become unfriendly to me -, & much applauded by others. - One of the sticklers for the french religion (as they term it) declared, in presence of their Chiefs & a number of warriors - that he never, in the course of his life, heard so many lies, in one day, told to ~~God al~~ the great God - as there had been, in my prayers & sermons that day - & it was his opinion, that if the Lord Jesus believed all the lies their Father had told

30.

" about the Oneida Nation, that day he would
" certainly destroy them — they were not fit to live —
" they were as bad as the old wicked Jews. —
" That such preaching was intolerable — who could
" have any peace under it? — — —

Good Peter & the Beech tree (who is now become the first Sachem since the death of the grasshopper) undertook the cause — & soon ~~removed every objection which had been~~ cleared ye Subject from all the obliquy & contempt which had been so liberally thrown upon it.

He addressed the spectators in a very striking manner — ~~among~~ which drew tears from almost every Eye — among other things, remarked — that however Jews, or white people of any nation had treated the Lord Jesus — he was afraid, that there was something in the hearts of Indians — that would kill Jesus was he now in the world, if Jesus himself did not hold it down — or restrain it. But he rejoiced that Jesus is almighty — & were it not for this belief — he should have but little joy.

As to the discourses here alluded to, I would beg leave to remark, they were not hasty, undigested — & unpremeditated harrangues — they are most laboured & studied — tho' [illegible] sorrow - I have had but little opportunity & less convenience for close attention to my ministerial Studies the year past - I have been obliged to preach frequently upon the same subject - tho' seldom twice in the same place, without some variation or addition - & otherwise by particular request. ——

Decemb 5 - monday - four of their Chiefs & a number of their warriors & head woman come into my house for a friendly conference - when I rec'd the following address in form - Beechtree speaker. —

"Father, attend & hear the words ~~of~~ of your Children -
" we are here convened to congratulate you on your
" safe ~~arrival~~ return ; the westward: & thank
" the Lord Jesus that he hath protected you in
" your long journey to the westward thro' the
" various tribes of our Brothers the five Na-
" tions - we are glad to hear all the good
" things - & encouraging prospects concerning them
" which you have told us

Father, our present business, is to thank you that we have once more heard your voice:

It has made the hearts of many of your
Children, weep for Joy. — But we are sorry, to say
there are some among them, who are not glad to
see you — altho' they come to hear you preach.
— They are of another mind: they think,
~~that~~ another religion, different from that
which you have taught us — will lighten their
burdens: we, however think, they conduct
in such a manner as will increase their packs:
we mean their load of Sins; — we hope their
Eyes will be opened & they come to repentance.
Father, we ~~your~~ Child, love you; we en-
treat you, not to forsake us — nor give us
up for lost — or we shall certainly go to
ruin. — our hearts are grieved — at the hard words
some of your your Childn spoke against you, in the
affair of leasing our lands — last spring, as tho' you
had acted an unfriendly part to us.

Father, you know what party they were of —
& You know, Father, that we never believed these
reports. — And now the truth, has come to light:
you

you was our only true friend: & the man of another Nation - the great trader, hath deceived us -:

Father; compose your mind: - we now declare, as in the presence of Jesus, that we never had any reason to believe you have acted an unfriendly part to our Nation from the first day you came to us - to this very time. we declare you to be pure in our sight, & free from ~~all blame~~ every fault: - and furthermore we believe you are pure in the sight of the great God. but that matter belongs to our Father.

Father we intreat you to exercise a long mind & tender compassion towards your Children. - we know it would be a just punishment from the Lord Jesus, if he should take you away from us: neither could we think hard of you should you reject us; & never come to us more; Because some of your Children have treated you with such ingratitude & such abuse, as we never shall forget. & we are afraid the great God will never forget it.

"Father. You know what patience & compass
"Jesus Exercises towards every people — you will
"look upon that — & consider us."

"Father we have no more to say."

This scene was so affecting — & my spirits were so exhausted — that I made but a short reply — referring them to a letter which I wrote to them of Summer past — assured them that it was not my intention — nor ever had been to reject them — — that I would return to them by leave of Providence — in the month of February. — That ~~my engage~~ the encouragements I had given their Brother of the five nations of making them another a visit the next Summer were such, that I should feel myself under obligations, to gratify them — unless I should procure another missionary who would undertake the tour — But I was sure this would meet with their approbation — and if a French Priest should be sent over to them the next spring — agreeably to ye expectations of some of them — they would have opportunity of making trial of his & their friendship — [illegible] They returned me thanks, in the most affectionate manner — and desired me, to be assured that the declaration I had alluded to in our conversation as made in behalf of the Nation, was known, only to five or six Indians at the time, & expressed the sentiments of no more. — The declaration was this — made in a partial ~~full~~ council — "we Indians of the Oneida Nation, give our minds, to you "our Father the Frenchman, called ~~afing~~ Kayighlaghkolag Peneet — & will "in future be under his direction!" ~~I agree that~~ "all communications, shall come to us thro' "him!" —

They then proposed to accompany me to New Stockbridge — to attend the proposed lecture there — — accordingly set out very soon — ~~[illegible]~~ & arrived there a little before sunset. — The Indians soon convened — I discoursed very largely from ~~[illegible]~~: Luke 10-42. "But one thing is needful!"

This has been the most serious. attentive & agreeable meeting I have experienced for this year past - in religious & devotional exercises. we broke up a little before midnight -

Decem^{r} 2^{d} - The Indians of this Village - in presence of the Oneidas - addressed me in a very affectionate manner - & with such civility & good sense - ~~which~~ as exceeded any thing of the kind, I ever rec^{d} from them before - Capt^{t}. Hendrick their Chief was their Speaker. - The Oneidas appeared to be much affected. - The fatigues of the week past & constant Crowd of company - forbid me the pleasure of committing it to writing.

8 - Mond^{y} - Mohawk River - the latter part of the last week - came down to the German flatts, in company with some of my Indians - by appointment - to meet a Number who expected to collect here for relig^{s} worship by the sabbath - I accordingly preached yesterday -

And am now engaging provision, to be
ready for me, by the month of February - to
transport to the Indian Country so soon
as the slaying shall be good. —

15 - Monday - the week past - have been a little
troubled with a cold - ~~which~~ with the ~~b~~ inclemency
of the weather - prevented my preaching yester-
day - I concluded it was best to take this
opportunity to visit my family for a few days
& return to Albany by the 10th of January
~~there we~~ in order to meet two Seneka
Chiefs - who were desirous to go to Boston,
for ~~an~~ a personal interview or [illegible] free conversation
with the Commissrs - particularly respecting
the education of ~~their~~ some of their Children, &
~~[illegible]~~
~~[illegible]~~ —

Decr 23 arrived at Stockbridge & found
~~found~~ my dear family in health & peace, after
about four months absence from them.

14 Jany - Stockbridge - Yesterday returned from Albany where I have been waiting ~~near~~ ~~six days~~ a number of days & expecting the arrival of two Seneka Chiefs - whom I appointed to meet at this place in order to accompany them to Boston - they having expressed a great desire of a personal Interview with the Commiss. to converse with them, particularly in regard to the education of their Children - which is an object they have very much at heart, if it can be done agreeably to their minds - . ~~And here I would observe~~ -

The Honble Board have been made acquainted by my Journal transmitted to them in the month of August last - of several applications made to me, by the Chiefs on Buffaloe Creek & Genesee - both Senekas & Onondagas also some Oneidas, to make provision for the education of some of their youths - they have accordingly desired me to take

care of several of their promising youth.
& adopt them, into my family ~~that they shall~~
hence forward - be considered (in the Indian style)
as ~~my Sons~~ the ministers. - & upon my accepting the charge
or trust - the Parents, respectively, in a formal manner enjoined it
upon them, to follow my advice ~~[illegible]~~ attend to
my instructions - some of these, adopted Sons have been
my companions ~~the~~ Summer past & 2d autumn - in
travelling several hundred miles thro' their
Country. - these, they would wish to be
taught the english language - to read &
write the same -
The ~~next step~~ other kind of Schooling
they would have to be in their own ~~language~~ in their respective Villages
The Education of the first Class, they
wish to be such, as shall fit them for ~~[illegible]~~
politicians - & school masters - to intro-
duce the manners & customs of the white
people among them - which the famous
Capt. Brant, has effected, in every considerable degree among the
Mohawks. - ~~The~~ Indians ~~[illegible]~~

3 40

I have not given any encouragement of having a School set up, in the Senekas Country the ~~ensuing~~ present year — as the expense would be too great — ~~till a settlement should be made~~ till Provisions can be furnished at a less distance than Mohawk River.

The vicinity of Oneida — is the most convenient place that I know of for the instruction of those who are designed for an english education — a settlement of white people has been making there for two years past — & will soon furnish provis^s at a moderate price. They are also a sober, religious & industrious people. —

Particular attention should be paid to the Characters of the Persons who might be empl ~~sent out~~ in the Indian Country, either as Miss^y or School Masters. They ought to be of good moral Character — of generous principles — lovers of universal peace — free from a party spirit & bigotry, not contracted, but catholic in their sentiments. They must treat all Indians, indiscriminately with kindness, &c

I must request the Board to Authorize me to draw my Bills for ~~the~~ present year Salary — altho' the year is not expired by about one month & a half. I have been more than eight months in actual Service since the 16th of last month ~~including about three weeks~~.

I have also engaged to return to the Indian Country in the month of February — & must improve that season to transport my provisions for the ensuing year — or they will cost me double if not three times as much, to convey them thro' the woods to Oneida next spring & summer, — I flatter my self it will meet the approbation of the Society in Scotland.

I could also wish, that I might be allowed, in future, ~~to draw~~ to receive my

40 ; 41

salaries from the Society in Scotland
in the months, of Jany or February:
as the travelling is generally extreme
bad in the Spring season – & the most
inconvenient & difficult time for me
to leave the Indian Country.

I expect, in my next tour, to spend
six or nine months among the Indians,
~~[illegible]~~ [illegible] of my family – unless
it should be for a few days in the Summer season.

These frequent Journeys are not only
fatiguing, but expensive – & in some
measure, to be considered as a loss of time.

The Indians, at the westward, as
well as the Oneidas, (the french party
excepted) are exceedingly desirous that
I should build a house in their Country & move
my family. & become an actual resident,
& then (they say) they shall be sure of me
in their service.
Indians, indiscriminately with kind

I have long wished, to be able to accommodate my family in some measure in that Wilderness, & move them there; & were making preparations for it previous to Mrs. K's Death — since which I have not been [illegible] turned my attention to it, till lately, — I now ~~design~~ have it in view to put me up a log-house, in the vicinity of Oneida, at the opening of the Spring — And I have given so much encouragement to two Chiefs, particularly in regard to their favorite sons, whom I have adopted — that I expect they will be sent down in the Spring — & I shall feel myself under obligations to take them — at least for six months. ~~The princip~~ ~~of humanity will justify me~~

43

Should there be no Missionary sent
to the westward - the ensuing season
pursuant to the encouragements I gave them the last f
I must visit that quarter myself.
And I ~~am at a loss~~ very much question,
whether a new Mission at this time,
would answer the expence attending it
in the Senekas Country, before any
settlement of white people shall be
established in their vicinity. - And
without vanity - I verily believe that
I might do more towards softening their
manners, conciliating their affections,
& preparing the way to civilization
& introducing the gospel among them,
in two or three months, than a new hand
with an Interpreter, could effect in the
compass of a year. As for ~~one twentieth~~ far less
part of the expence. -
But I shall be able to give farther
information on this head, to the Board
in their Session [illegible] with kindness

by next Spring

I am very desirous of ~~being~~ being in a more settled
State & having more retirement for study
& application than has fallen to my lot these
two years past. — Altho' I have reason to
believe my last year has been more ~~generally~~ extensively
useful to the Indians than many preceding years ~~any of the prece~~
~~ceding~~. — I now wish to have opportunity
& leisure to prosecute the translation of
one or more of the evangelists in to the
Oneida dialect — & compose a grammar
of their language, if it be reducible to rules
& my knowledge of it be equal to the
business. — In order to this, it will be necessary that
I make some improvements in husbandry,
& cultivation ~~in~~ so as to raise my own
provisions in the vicinity of Oneida,
or I shall remain under embarrassed cir-
cumstances during my whole life, which
prospect is not very pleasing. —

The Generosity ~~of the Corporation of~~

Harvard College in making up my arrerages has enabled me nearly to complete the collegiate education of one of my sons — but his twin Brother, who has but lately entered the College at Dartmouth will of course straighten my circumstances for several years. —

Boston 24 Jany
1789

Saml Kirkland
Missy

To Revd Dr Wigglesworth
Secretary to the Corresponding
Board of Commissrs

with kindness

The Council met at the President's house.

PHILADELPHIA, Wednesday, November 26th, 1788.

PRESENT:

His Excellency THOMAS MIFFLIN, Esquire, President.

Samuel Miles, Abraham Smith,
Nathan Dennison, John Baird,
Zebulun Potts, George Woods, and
Frederick Watt, Samuel Edie,
David Redick,
Esquires.

The Council met.

PHILADELPHIA, Thursday, November 27th, 1788.

PRESENT:

His Excellency THOMAS MIFFLIN, Esquire, President.

Samuel Miles, Samuel Edie,
Zebulun Potts, John Baird,
Frederick Watts, Nathan Dennisen, and
George Woods, Richard Willing,
Abraham Smith,
Esq'rs.

Upon the petition of Samuel Hulings, of the county of Allegany, praying for the right of pre-emption of an island in the river Allegany, about fifteen miles from Pittsburgh, containing about forty acres;

Resolved, That the said right of pre-emption be granted to the petitioner, and that it be referred to Mr. Cannon, and Mr. Baird, to ascertain and report its value.

The petition of William Alexander, relative to his purchase of lot No. 6, in the reserved tract opposite to Pittsburgh, (which lot, upon inspection of the original survey in April, 1785, made by Alexander McLene, appears not to extend over Girty's run,) was referred to the same committee.

A petition from a number of purchasers of lots in the reserved tract of land opposite Pittsburgh, praying that several purchases may be included in one patent, and that the fees of office may be as low as possible, and receivable in paper money of the last emission, was referred to Mr Woods, and Mr. Smith.

Upon the report of the said committee an order was taken that the prayer of the said petition be granted, the purchasers paying for each recital agreeably to the terms of the Land Office.

On motion,

Resolved, That Colonel Francis Johnston and James Trimble, prepare the conveyances to the purchasers of lots within the said reserved tract agreeably to the said resolution.

The committee appointed to enquire into the state of the fund appropriated by act of Assembly, for purchasing from the Indians the Lake Erie lands, lately ceded to this State by the United States, and to report a suitable person to procure the goods necessary to make the said purchase, delivered in a report, which was read, and on motion, and by special order the same was read the second time and adopted, as follows, vizt:

Your committee appointed to enquire into the state of the fund arising from the additional duties, and to report a suitable person to purchase the Indian goods wanted by the Commissioners, report: That the Collector of the Customs has assured your committee that there will be a sufficient sum for the purpose of purchasing the goods referred to, of the proper fund in the treasury, by the first of January next. The committee recommend Wistar and Aston as suitable persons to procure the goods wanted, who will purchase what they cannot furnish out of their own store, without charging commissions. Your committee would observe, that from the enquiry they have made there is reason to believe that neither Strouds nor Match coats can be procured in this city, and would therefore submit to Council whether it would not be requisite to substitute blue cloth with white edging, if such can be got, and Indian blankets, in the place of Strouds and Match coats.

On motion,

Resolved, That Colonel Francis Johnston, be requested to superintend the purchase and choice of the goods aforesaid.

Upon motion,

Resolved, That agreeably to the supplement to the act of Assembly entituled "An Act to amend an act entituled An Act to remedy the defects of the several acts of Assembly heretofore made for regulating the elections of Justices of the Peace throughout this State, &ca" passed the twenty-seventh of February last, the inhabitants of the district of Norris-town, in the county of Montgomery, are intitled to and shall be allowed a third Justice of the Peace, upon an election of such Justice within the said district by the freeholders thereof being held, and a return made according to law.

Upon consideration of the report of the committee appointed to value the lots in the reserved tract opposite Pittsburg, occupied by James Robinson,

Resolved, That the sum of two hundred and twenty-four pounds two shillings in certificates be paid by the said James Robinson for the lots number 36, 37 and 38, containing in the whole eighteen acres, including the town lots.

Upon the second reading of the petition from a number of the freeholders of the district of Germany and Mountjoy townships against the late election of Justices in that district, and the report thereon,

Resolved, That the same be referred to Colonel Miles, Colonel Smith and Colonel Woods, to examine and report specially thereon.

The petitions of Stephen Jenkins and others, praying remission of the fines which have been imposed on them by the Supreme Court held in Luzerne county, upon being convicted of a riot, in carrying off Timothy Pickering, Esquire, were read the second time, and referred to Mr. Edie, Mr. Potts and Mr. Dennison, with instructions to consult the Chief Justice on the subject.

The Council met.

PHILADELPHIA, Friday, November 28th, 1789.

PRESENT:

His Excellency THOMAS MIFFLIN, Esquire, President.

Samuel Miles, John Baird,
Richard Willing, Zebulun Potts,
Samuel Edie, Abraham Smith, and
George Woods, Nathan Dennison, } Esq's.

An order was drawn upon the Treasurer in favor of James Elliott for the sum of seven pounds eleven shillings, in full of his account for boarding of John Franklin, from the eleventh of September until the time of his removal from the jail of the city and county of Philadelphia to that of the county of Luzerne, according to the Comptroller General's report.

Upon consideration of the petitions of Nicholas Seitzinger and Andrew Fox, of the borough of Reading, and a recommendation from the Court of Quarter Sessions of the county of Berks,

Ordered, That the fines imposed upon the petitioners by the said Court, upon their being severally convicted of assault and battery, be remitted

Upon the report of the committee to whom it was referred to consider of a proper name for the new town within the reserved tract of land opposite Pittsburg, and also names for the streets, lanes and alleys therein.

Resolved, That the said town be called Alleghany; that the street marked in the general draft or platt of said town:

No. 1 be called Federal street,
2 Ohio street,
3 Sandusky street,
And No. 4 Beaver street.

Oneida Decr 6th 1788

May it pleas your Excelency to hear a ſpeech of your Brothers the Oneida Chiefs —.

Brother Governer of New York attend and hear our woords.
we have ſome things to tell you that lie in our minds.

Brother: when you kindled a counciel fire at Fort Stanwix we thoug
we had ſettled all our buiſnes a bout our lands in a rieght way,
you know we choſe a committe to treat with you for our whole Nation a bout all our lands, and we made a ſtrong agreement,
but there is one thing Brother which we did not rightly underſtand, that is about the town ſhip of land which we had leaſed to Jedn Phelps, of Fort Stanwix. we thought that was to ſtand good. and would be Confirmed by the Governer and Commiſseiners from New York. we did not know it was left out til our Committe told us after the treaty that it Could not be Done at that time.

Brother hear what [illegible]r minds are. we pray you to Conſider this matter in your Great Council, we gave up to you by our Committe one third part of that land which we had leaced to our friend Mr Phelps. now we deſire you with your great Councel to Confirm ~~to him~~ the remaining two thirds to him and his heirs forever. according to our firſt agreemet and he muſt pay us the propotion of quit rent yearly acording as it is mentioned in the leace.

Brother Governer. Conſider how you have exhorted to do right. and be wiſe. we ſhall ſuffer much loſs every way if the remaining part of this leace be not Confirmed by your great Councel. for this bargain was made more than

ne year ago; we did all underſand it and all agre
nd our Friend Mr. Phelps. has Done us much good
e is on our ſiſhing and hunting rode, there we have
ſeveral years a reſting place and a ſleeping place
eary and hungry. he has ſed and refreſhed us mor
an we can recken up. his great benevolence to us
Conſidered or we can never hold up our heads, for we
great many times declared to him that our bargain
never be broken; Brother we pray you to make
nd ſecure to him and the Rent ſecure to us.

Brother Fare Well.

we further requeſt, that we may reſerve for our ſelves, one ſquare
aving the ſalt ſpring (near Nicolas Jourdains Dwelin
in the Center. and that the ſame quantity may be added
friend along the north end

Farewell

Katiektoton his X mark

ndough his X mark

Thaoshniyongo his X mark

is his X mark

Peter Otsiquette

ongwas his X mark

Col. Lewey Cook his X mark

Slikea his X mark

Sononsisse his mark

ha his X mark

Witneſses { Oris Curtis
Roger merrell

da his X mark

In Assembly Jany 19th 1789
Read & ordered to
be laid on the Table

Whites Town ye 16th of December AD 1788 then Personally Appear
Oris Curtis and Roger Merrill and made Solemn oath and tes
and Say that the Within Petition or Speech to his Excellency
Governer of New York was Sighned & Sealed by the onidas
When they was intirely Free From Liquor

Sworn Before me Hugh White Justice of ye P

on the Same day Mr Elijah Freeman upon oath testify
Says that two of the onida Chiefs Belonging to
Oriskana: Georg Doxtoder & Cornelius Did Sign the
within Petetion & Seal it & that they were Free fro
Liquor Sworn Before me Hugh White Justice of ye Pea

19th

Brother [illegible] your answer to the Message [illegible] we [illegible] with you [illegible] in the three [illegible] English [illegible] ought to be held at — that you [illegible] of a few individuals [illegible] at a great distance and who you think was [illegible] of the [illegible] extinguished at the [illegible] after you had lighted it, those people [illegible] of the [illegible] but little concerned [illegible] about [illegible] that [illegible] their improper conduct before the [illegible] look upon it extremely [illegible] particularly [illegible] existing [illegible] for several years [illegible] of this [illegible] the United States — [illegible] totally extinguished [illegible] that you [illegible].

Brother [illegible] every thing that [illegible] time and having [illegible] explanation [illegible] matters might be [illegible] by both sides, but [illegible] accordingly [illegible] again [illegible] still ready & willing to attend you at the [illegible] appointed [illegible] that you need be [illegible] ways apprehensive of ill usage. —— Brother

Father [illegible] proposals to make [illegible] the lands [illegible] of going further [illegible] this is [illegible] was [illegible] Indian Nations that were [illegible] Wyandots [illegible] that is now [illegible] differs [illegible] which was [illegible] a few nations [illegible] these [illegible] anything that [illegible] to [illegible] him not agreed [illegible] well [illegible]

Father [illegible] to [illegible] remain [illegible] with [illegible] the Greatest [illegible] — the great spirit [illegible] has [illegible] this country. [illegible] between Great Britain and America [illegible] enjoyed [illegible] — [illegible] Masters and only true proprietors of it [illegible] we propose to give to the United States all the lands lying on the East side Muskingum running along said River to the old Fort built at Tuscarawas 1764, thence along said river to the south end of the Portage that leads to Cayahoga from said south end of the Portage in a straight and direct line until it strikes the Old Fort at the mouth of Cayahoga and thence down the Ohio to the Mouth of said Muskingum, all the Lands comprehended within said boundaries We are willing to grant you for ever without the least expectation of receiving any thing for them, this is the boundary line that we the Confederate Indian Nations have thought proper to point out and which we cannot exceed —

Brother As the Season is far advanced we wish to request your answer as soon as possible — in case of our Compliance to your answer, then probably we may be better informed, against our Messenger returns, the rest of the Nations will be come up then if our proposals should be agreed to, We may go in a body to ratify them.

30th

Brother [illegible] otherwise
[illegible] &c ma[illegible]
the [illegible] that are [illegible] assembled at the Miamis
[illegible] represented by your Messenger in consequence
of what [illegible] people who sent the speech of
the 17th [illegible] being [illegible] proposals being
[illegible] of the [illegible] of the Indian Nations the
[illegible] Cayugas Onontegas [illegible] Tuscaroras,
[illegible] and [illegible] being part of the nations
[illegible] invited [illegible] nations
[illegible] not again we would receive your answer the
whole of the Nations would be [illegible] that we
[illegible] our Ammunition [illegible] exhausted
We cannot think of remaining longer as the [illegible]
[illegible] &c [illegible] we may meet them
and shall communicate the purport of your speech
to [illegible] all other Nations concerned — are
[illegible] accomplish the good
work of [illegible] peace [illegible]
[illegible] you
[illegible] peace is our wish.

Brother you say that we again [illegible]
[illegible] ask
you [illegible] that we were still [illegible] to
[illegible] you need not be
[illegible] of ill usage [illegible] you say we mistake
you [illegible] when we mention you sent Wilson to receive

speak that you sent him to receive an answer whether we would come or not, and that you would receive proposals at the place you was. — We sent our answer by him that we could not go, and by him we sent our proposals which you received, we cannot perceive the difference whether you received them (as long as you did receive them) by him or by the hands of the Indians you received them at Fort Harmer, the place you mentioned you would receive them. We sent some of our principle men to accompany him, our reason for sending our answer and proposal in writing was that your Interpreter was not capable of explaining matters to you. — At the same time you tell us, if we do not comply with what was done at those petty Councils held with Genl. Butler, that you had other measures to take — you ask us whether those people whose names you sent were not Chiefs — We allow some were but not a sufficient Number to dispose of a Country belonging to so many different Nations neither were those people authorised to transact business of consequence.

Brother you say we put our Lands under the protection of the King of England long before the dispute between you and them from which time we gave him a right to dispose of our Country. — In that you are much mistaken for we never did, if it was as you say, where would have been the necessity of the meeting at Fort Stanwix in 1768 when a Boundary Line was fixed upon by the Governors of the different Provinces and the Indians — You again say what are

[illegible] were equally active for the British for?
[illegible] for the [illegible] of our Country and that the
[illegible] of [illegible] then being distributed amongst
[illegible] were [illegible] sent expressly for that purpose
— [illegible] you would be much disappointed and
[illegible] tell you [illegible] received these words and
[illegible] from the King of England is in
[illegible]
[illegible] the clothing of
different kinds [illegible] given to the Indians.
[illegible] their property —
If [illegible] right to dispose of our Country
[illegible] the regular
purchasers. [illegible] by the treaty of peace he gave
of our [illegible] the [illegible] of selling,
[illegible] all
[illegible] asked [illegible] the Country [illegible] Country given
to you by the King of England [illegible] the property of the Indians.

Brother you [illegible] proposals [illegible] alleged in
[illegible] impossible — [illegible] were not told when we sent
to [illegible] after our Meeting at the Huron Village,
[illegible] impossibility of making any alterations
respecting the [illegible] it would have saved us a
great deal of trouble and fatigue. As to your
saying that we may expect Assistance from the
British [illegible] do not [illegible] have they ever given us
the least encouragement to think so. — but quite

[illegible] and have ever advised us to make peace with the United States as you put us, yet no more confidence in them than we do in any other civilized Nation who we knew always have their own interest in view — You say you are now at peace with them, and soon may be in friendship that and we must acknowledge is above our comprehension, whether you expect to be subject to them or in Alliance, we cannot conceive.

Brother We have pointed out to you in our last the Lands we are willing to give you, except that we cannot, hope it will not be long before you'll hear more from us on the subject, and that you'll consider seriously — if we find there is no other means left, but that you must and will have our Country — We tell you we have true feelings and true Spirit, and must leave the event to the will of the great Spirit, to whom We look up for justice, and who knows the hearts of all men and that we are peaceably disposed and not wishing to further your own wish then entering into a War.

Brother You say the king gave you our Country the parts we allow he did, which he had a right to. What then is the reason you do not take them, which We acknowledge is yours agreeable to the treaty of peace between the British and you.

Strings Wampum

Sir

Licking Creek 8th December 1788

By the bearer of the speeches we have met the Shawanese Delawares, Muncees & Mingoes have communicated the purport of your Speeches, sent to us in behalf of the Nations that were lately assembled at the Miamis rapids. They are of the same opinion with us, that nothing more can be done, than what we have offered, at least untill such time as the whole of the Confederacy is made acquainted as any thing that they might as individuals do, would be paid little attention to by the whole, as no business of consequence is to be transacted without the unanimous consent of all concerned. I am Brother in Behalf of the five Nations Shawanese, Delawares Muncees & Mingoes

(Signd Jos: Brant

Govr St Clair
Fort Harmar

Copy of
Speeches of the Indian Nations
to Mr. Sinclair the American
Commiss 8th Decr 1788

Fort Harmar Decr 13th 1788

Sir

I have received Information from Detroit, which I depend upon, that a certain Colld. Connolly, who came to that Place, [illegible] from Quebec, last Winter has not long ago set out for Louisville at the rapids of the Ohio — he is the Connolly that made himself pretty remarkable during the progress of the Revolution, and was appointed a Lieut. Colonel in one of the Refugee Corps — he is upon the half pay List, and has lately obtained from Lord Dorchester an addition of two hundred pounds Sterling pr Annum, and his Expences. The Reason he assigned, at Detroit for his Journey to Louisville was, that he might obtain Certificates of the value of his Property in that Country which had been confiscated in order to support the Claim he had made upon the british Government for Compensation. My Information is, that he is sent to tamper with the People of Kentucky and induce them to throw themselves into the Arms of Great Britain, and to assure them of protection and support in that Measure — if that cannot be brought about, to stimulate them to Hostilities against the Spaniards, and at once to detach them from the United States. I have written to Major Wyllis, who commands at the Rapids, informing him of these Circumstances, and requesting him to have an Eye upon him and, if he finds him either exciting a Revolt, or tempting the People to Hostilities against Spain, to make him a Prisoner, and to send him to this Post, with a transcript of the Testimony against him, and the Names of the Persons who will support it, that they may be forwarded together to you. I know of no other Officer of the United States Sir, who could with propriety take cognizance of it; but if in that I am mistaken, you will please to inform me to whom he should be sent in case he should be apprehended. The Offence, I have no doubt is treasonable; but whether we have any Laws to punish Treason against the United States, I doubt very much — even in that case as the Country is within the Limits of Virginia, it would be Treason against that State, and there he might be punished for it. Since his Arrival at Louisville he gives out that he has discovered some Flaw in the Act of Assembly, and means to attempt the recovery of his Estate by a Course of Law, and as that will detain him in the Country, he has hired a House and taken up his Residence. It is certain Sir, that, in their last Convention, a proposal was made that the District of Kentucky should set up for itself, not only as independent of Virginia but of the United States also, and was rejected by a small Majority only — It may possibly be that Overtures have been made to Lord Dorchester; but it cannot be that my Lord would make Connolly such an Allowance, or indeed any Allowance for looking after his property and to bring on a Claim upon his Nation. Connolly has also been writing to many People about Pittsburgh and in that Country, and has intimated an intention to visit that Place this Winter; and I have heard has opened himself pretty freely to General Morgan of Winchester in Virginia — All these Circumstances put together make it more than probable that he is an Agent of the British for some sinister Purpose — If any other Measures than those I have directed ought to be pursued, you will oblige me by pointing them out, and they shall be executed without delay.

After the tedious Expectation that has attended the proposed Treaty with the Indians, there is now a prospect of its soon beginning, indeed in a few days, as they are now within two short days Journey — It will not however be a very general meeting as Brant, who is also a british Pensioner at four hundred pounds Sterling pr Annum, after coming within sixty Miles of us, is gone back to Detroit, and has taken with him the whole of the Mohawks, and a part of some other Tribes of the five Nations, and it is to be feared will also prevail with the Shawanese and the western People, who were within two days Journey of him, on their way here, to return with him likewise — I do not however consider that as any great Misfortune, because I believe the Consequence will be the Dissolution of the general Confederacy which he and the british have taken so much Pains to form, and hope to be able keep the Frontiers of New York, Pennsylvania and the upper part of Virginia in Peace this Winter — No Treaty I believe will secure the lower frontier of that State at present. If that, and the Possession and Sale of the western Territory is an Object with Congress they must prepare to chastise the western Nations seriously as early in the Season as possible — The Depredations they commit upon the Inhabitants is intolerable — and it is not confined now to the Inhabitants — they have had the audacity to fall upon the Parties escorting Provisions to the Posts; as those Posts are so weak, so distant from each other, & supplied with so much difficulty that they will either fall into their Hands or be abandoned for want of Provisions; if things remain upon the Foot – It is to be fea that the Indians, at the same time, will not want for assistance from the British – and it is pretty evident that People have no thought of surrendering the Posts they hold within the Territory of the united States, for Lord Dorchester, who visited them himself this last Summer, has ordered the Town at Detroit to be picketed in, ~~and~~ which is compleated, and additional Works to be constructed there, and a Fort they call Castle St Clair, on the american side of the Strait between the Lake of that Name and the Huron, which had been begun during the War, and abandoned at the Peace, to be compleated.

It was always my Fear that our western Territory, instead of proving a Fund for paying the national Debt, would be a Source of Mischief and increasing Expence – but the Expence is not the worst part of it – It has given such a Spring to the Spirit of Emigration, too high before, that tho' it is pregnant with the most serious Consequences to the Atlantic States, it cannot now be held back – and the Spani are also trying to turn that Spirit, with great Industry to their Advantage – so that those States not only lose their People and sink the value of their Soil for the pre but are laying the foundation of the Greatness of a new Country. It is a considerable time that the Spaniards have been offering a thousand Acres of Land gratis, to every American who would remove into West Florida — to pay him ten Dollars for every hundred weight of Tobacco he could raise and deliver at New Orleans and an exemption from all Taxes and a proportionate price for Provisions and other Articles the produce of his Farm but they have lately gone a step farther — If I am well informed, Coll. Morgan, who was lately in Treaty with the Board of Treasury for a Tract of Land on the Missisippi, has obtained of Mr. Gardoqui a Grant of a very large Tract upon the Spanish side opposite to the mouth of the Ohio, which he engages to settle with Americans — They are to have the same Priveledges with those who remove into Florida — He is now at Fort Pitt, and it is supposed will carry a good many People from that Country — upon Kentucky is however his chief dependance, for in that Quarter are many Thousands of People who have been tempted by the Accounts published of its amazing fertility to quit their ancient Settlements without having secured a foot of Land there and can not obtain Lands but at a Price that is beyond their reach — There is no doubt many of those will readily join him, for they have no Country, and indeed that Attachment to the natale Solum that has been so powerful and active a Principle in other Countries is very little felt in America — I have been casting about for some way to counteract Mr. Morgan and I cannot think of any so likely to succeed, as upon

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Congreſs to change the mode of disposing of the — western Lands in large Tracts — at least to change it for a part of them and lay them open to be taken up by People who settle upon them — The Country upon the Miſsiſsippi and between that and the Wabash, would accommodate the People of Kentucky who have no Land and I believe it would tempt them to remove to it, — rather than the Spanish side, and it might be disposed of in the manner the Proprietors of Pennsylvania sold the Lands they last purchased of the Indians — It was thus — The Lands were set at five Pounds Sterling pr. hundred Acres — no more than three hundred Acres were allowed to be taken up by one Man — He made a Description, in writing, of the Piece he wanted, bounding it either upon Land already granted, or some Creek or River, or marked Trees that rendered it sufficiently certain, and carried it to the Office of the Surveyor Genl. where it was entered in a Book kept for the purpose — The Surveyor General iſsued an order for making the Survey, returnable within a certain time to his Office and the Applicant took Poſseſsion — The purchase Money run upon Interest from the date of the order of Survey — and was discharged when it was in the Persons power tho', to make them more industrious a time was fixed within which the Patents should be taken out, but no Advantage was ever taken of their overpaſsing that time — On the payment of principal and interest the Patent iſsued — I believe there is not an instance, tho' it is a very extensive Country, at least the Instances are few, where the Patents have not been taken out, and all the Land good and bad has been sold.— Altho' this mode would not so suddenly extinguish any part of the Debt as that now in Use, yet an Interest equal to the Interest of the Debt as far as the Lands went, would be accruing to the united States, and the principal would come in at last, and the People, who are of infinite value, that will otherwise be worse than lost, will be secured — the present Inhabitants of that country, when they see it gathering strength by the accession of new Inhabitants will be more inclined to remain in it — The Spaniards are also at work with them to induce them to abandon it, and have succeeded with many of them. Excuse me Sir for troubling you with my Ideas on the Subject — they are crude Ideas, but you will improve upon them and perfect them, if they deserve any attention — the Subject is, in my Opinion an interesting one to the united States.

The Spaniard has also been making Seizures upon the east side of the Mississippi within the Territory of the united States. General Harmar, some time ago, transmitted to the War Office, the Com=plaint of a Mr. McIntosh, and I now enclose you the Deposition of a Monsieur de St. Marie on a like Occasion, and extracts from a Letter of Major Ham=tramck the Commandant at Post St. Vincennes of the 13th of October to Genl. Harmar.

I ought Sir to beg pardon

for troubling you with so long a Letter but I cannot put an end to it without requesting you to present my best Respects to Mrs. Jay, and to believe that I am with the greatest Respect an Esteem

Sir

Your most obedient Servant

Ar. St. Clair

Govr. St. Clair
Decr. 13 1788

The honorable
John Jay Esqr.
Minister of foreign Affairs for the
United States

5th. I have mentioned Extracts from Majr. Hamtramck Letter that you will find but one — the other which respe some Depredations and the Murder of some friendly Indi has been enclosed by Genl. Harmar in his Dispatches to the Secy. at War, and I have not now time to get another made out.

The Treaty with the Indians is opened, and as far as we have yet gone looks well.

Extract from a Letter of Major Hamtramck to Genl. Harmar dated Post St. Vincennes Octr. 13th. 1788

"The Commandant of St. Louis has wrote a Letter to the French of this Place inviting them to come and settle on the Spanish side, and offers them Land for nothing. This Letter was given to an Indian — I have got it from him before any of the People saw it".

N.B. I have information from Mr. De Valenier the Priest at Kaskaskies that the ~~same~~ like Invitations have been given to the the Inhabitants there and at Cahokia.

Ar. St. Clair

Sir

In pursuance to the ancient Usage and Custom of this Country I in the month of November last applied for and obtained leave of absence on a trading voyage; In consequence of which, and of my right as a Freeman and Citizen of the United States of America I loaded a Petty augur with several Goods & Merchandize to the amount of Five Thousand and Nine Hundred & Forty one Livres and Fifteen Sous in Peltry currency of this place equal to One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty Dollars and Forty two Ninetieths of a Dollar, and sent them under the care and management of my Clerk Mr. Summner, with directions to proceed down the Mississippi River and trade them off with the Indian Nations living within the boundaries of the United States of America.

Mr. Summner accordingly set out, and went down that River to a place called the Chicasaw Lake, which is situated about Ninety leagues down from the River Ohio, about Twenty leagues higher than where the English Fort of the Arkansas formerly stood, and in about 34°. 40'. of North Latitude according to Hutchins's Map, where he pitched his Camp on the East or American Side of the Mississippi in the neighbourhood of some friendly Indians who were there hunting. Here after a few days stay he was taken up by an Order from Mons.r Valliere the Spanish Commandant at the post of the Arkansas by a party of Spanish Soldiers sent from that Fort, who at the same time, seized the Petty augur and the goods, and carried them together with my Clerk and the other hands in the Boat to the Spanish Fort, where Mons.r Valliere the Commandant seized and confiscated the Property for the use of the Spanish King, at the same time informing them that he had orders from the Governor of Louisiana at New-Orleans immediately to seize and confiscate all Property which might be found on the Mississippi or on either of its Shores any where below the mouth of the Ohio, and to send the Persons of those found with such goods Prisoners to him at New Orleans. — Being very soon after informed of this Transaction I went myself to the Arkansas and applied to the Spanish Commandant for a Restoration of my Property, who in very peremptory terms refused giving them up, alledging his before mentioned Orders, and adding that I might take it as a great favor that my Clerk & hands as well as myself were not confined and sent in Irons to Orleans as Prisoners. — When I reasoned on my right as an American Subject to traffic on the American Continent, and that my Property was seized in the Territory to which I conceived America had an undoubted Right he stopped me short, by informing me that the Country on both sides of the River Mississippi as high up as the mouth of the River Ohio belonged to Spain, and that the whole of the Country on the East side of the Mississippi from the mouth of Ohio downwards was then under the Spanish Government. — Surprised at this Information and not being satisfied that the Governor had really given such orders I went to New Orleans, and on or about the 20th day of May last obtained an audience of the Governor Don Miro, who as soon as informed of my name asked me in very haughty terms how I could have the audacity to appear before him on the Subject of the Seizure of my

Property; That altho' I was a Frenchman born, yet that I then w an American Subject, and that if he the Governor was to follow Orders from the Court of Spain he would send me Prisoner to th mines of Brazil and then concluded in a threatening mann with bidding me depart from thence and be no more seen, which last orders I was glad to obey and withdraw myself as soon as far as possible from such Despots, without receiving any Satisfaction. —

Thus circumstanced my only and last resource is to th Honorable the Congress of the United States of America as Guardia of the Rights and Liberties of her Subjects, whose Persons have bee seized and Properties confiscated in her acknowledged Territory an armed Force in pursuance to the orders of a foreign Prince.

From the Time that the American name has been known i this Country, I have been a Subject of the United States; I have fought in the defence of that Country whose subjects a Spanish Commandant is hardy enough to oppress; I am now unless Government interferes, without any Remedy for a Loss which w reduce me with a Wife and a numerous Family to the utm Distress. —

I must beg of you Sir to make known my Case to Congress in such manner as you shall think proper, and as speedy as possible; as in me the rights of Sovereignty of America as well to a very extensive Territory, as to the navigation of the Mississippi, and where below the mouth of the River Ohio, has been invaded, my Case is become a Public Cause, and will in its consequences determine a grand National Question. I dare hope and trust that as an ancient Inhabitant of this Country and as one of the first Subjects of America in it, I shall be thought worthy the Protection of Congress, and that they will adopt some means to give satisfaction and Recompence for my Losses. — To convince you and the wo of the Justice of my Cause I propose to make Oath before a Magistrate of the Truth of the whole of the Case as before sta and shall whenever called upon produce proper Vouchers Proofs to authenticate the same.

I am Sir

Your most Obedient

and very humble Servant

Joseph St. marie

Post Vincents 23d. Aug.
1788. —

To Major Hamtramck of the first U.S. Regim.
and Commandant at
Post Vincents.

Post Vincents 23.d August 1788. Personally appeared before
s the Subscribers Magistrates of the District of Post Vincents
oseph St. Marie of the same place, Merchant Trader, who
ade oath upon the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God that
he above State of his Case is Just & True: In witness whereof
e have hereunto set our Hands & Seals the day and
ear above written.

jean bte miliet

J.M.P. Legras

Valentine Thomas Dalton

Saturday December 13th. 1788

This day a Number of Indians arrived in the neighbourhood and sent word that the Chiefs would come in and take us by the Hand. About three o'Clock they were assembled in the Council house Viz. the five Nations except the Mohawks: the Senecas, the Wyandots, the Delawares the Ottawas, the Chippewas, the Potawatamies and Sacs. The Governor attended by the Commissioners of Pennsylvania Viz. Generals Butler & Gibson, and General Harmar, and the Officers of the Garrison and a Number of Gentlemen, proceeded to the Council house and being seated. Deuentete the chief of the Wyandots rose and addressed the Governor in the Name of all the Nations present, to the follow

That they rejoiced that the Great Spirit had enabled them to come to this place to meet their Brothers the United States. It gave them much Satisfaction to see them in a friendly Manner, that their hearts were good as they hoped ours were, and that every thing that was done at this Meeting would be for mutual benefit which was the wish of all the Nations; that they had more to say to their Brothers, but as the day was near spent they would defer it until another Opportunity; for the present they would only take them by the Hand in token of friendship. ~

(A String of Wampum) ——

the,

[illegible] heard from the Brothers,

the [illegible] have [illegible] Brothers have been

[illegible] a very long time. I am

glad [illegible] and take

[illegible] of the hand. [illegible] with them,

Cayasuttha [illegible] since

he [illegible] came down [illegible] much in the

same [illegible] as the Governor had done, the Council fire was

[illegible] the Meeting [illegible] tobacco has been

distributed, and Provisions ordered for them.

Note the Cornplanter [illegible] Seneca [illegible] would not enter

the Council house or take any of them by the hand until

the Governor had set them the example. they also had been

here for a long time. —

In Council Fort Harmar Dec^r 14^th 1788.

Present as Yesterday.

[illegible] Brothers, I am thankful to the Great Spirit

that has allowed us to meet together again this morning,

and am very happy to meet our Brothers here.

the Meeting [illegible] yesterday was to salute them, and to see

what Order the Council fire was in. Untill to morrow I

must have something more to say, and hope the grand Business

will go on, and that our minds are the same.

Brothers of the thirteen united States.

You will listen to your Brothers that are assembled at this present Council it is here it appears to be dark where You are at present and the fire does not burn clear. but now we shall clear it all that is in our Power. and likewise clear the Clouds from the Heavens above that every thing may go on regular . a String of White Wampum.

Brothers. We now make every thing clear and look up towards Heaven, so that the clouds are driven from the Sky. It is the Great Spirit above that will show You the way to establish friendship between us. it is not you alone that will be shewn how to make this good work, we are at, he will help us likewise . . . A String of Black Wampum.

Brothers of the Thirteen United States

Listen to what we are going to say. your Eyes were so full of tears that you could not see. We now wipe away all the tears from your Eyes. And likewise your throats we shall clear. and your heart we shall set it Straight. & Your Ears we shall open that you may hear every thing that we shall say unto you. and that what we say may all enter into Your Ears without any impediment. as it is of great importance to us Both,

A String of Black & White

Brothers, Listen to us now what we have to say. I will now put good wood to Kindle our fire. it belongs to us all in this Island We are in. I now put on good wood that will burn clear, and will make the Young men

Now then the fire, the light of which shall touch the Heavens above and be seen by all Nations. As this fire which we now kindle will be for the great Work. We shall make it for all Nations that are here in this Island — A String of White

Brothers of the Thirteen United States

Listen now to what they all say. we have now finished the fire and have swept round it for a Considerable distance, and have left nothing in our way, no not even a Straw, that we may come and sit round it without any thing to hinder us. I shall come on one side of the fire & You on the Other, — (String of White)

Brothers. Listen to us again, what we Chiefs shall say to You. We are looking towards You. You have a great head of hair Our People have been plucking at your heads this great while let us wipe your head down and take away the Blood the blood that remained on it, and likewise we wipe off the drops of Blood that have dropped on Your Body — and let the Great Spirit above teach you and us only good things Hereafter. And let every thing remain in friendship between you and us.

A Belt Black & White

Brothers.

Listen again to what we Chiefs of the Indian Nations are saying. We left the fire which was Kindled up the River, and you have left the Bones of Your people there, and we likewise have left the Bones of ours. Who was the agressor in this Mischief, it was people that had no Sense, Brothers, We request of you is listen to what we said just now. We say that you have left the Bones of your people there, and we have likewise left the Bones of ours there with Yours, as these People had no sense. We now take your bones and ours and shall bury them together. We now dig a very deep grave which reaches the Water Underneath, and hereafter we shall consider all these things over, and think no more of it as the Current of the Water will wash it away.

A String of White.

Brothers,

We have now buried the Bones of your relations with our own under ground very deep. We now put the Earth over them Likewise strew the leaves of the trees that have fallen, on the top of them, that hereafter our people may walk over it and see nothing of it. that they may go and come every where about without ever thinking of it.

A Belt.

Brothers, of the United States

We hope now that you will draw Back your Brethren the five nations which have returned. as it is not their wishes to do any thing of the kind. We request of you to have pity on them as they are innocent of what our Brethren the five nations have done, and what he has done is of no Effect. there is no truth in any thing he has said it was his fault that you and I could not meet sooner to do the good work we are at Present about.

It is [illegible] Between the five Nations wishes to have things Contrary to our minds It is he that puts ill in the People You will not think it is us. as it is far from our inclinations. Perhaps unknown to us both if any mischief should happen to us it is the five Nations that have urged it on it is he alone that has declared this Treaty. and not any one else (String White)

Brothers of the United States.

Listen to what we say now. It was that we observed our [illegible] know [illegible] turning of the five Nations turning back we cannot conceive what the meaning of it is. We think strange of it. It is because he has been the Occasion of turning a large number of People back is the reason we think strange of it.

Brothers. Listen to us once again. We said that the five Nations has been the Occasion of turning a number of men back from coming here. We hope you will not lay the Blame to us, as we are quite innocent of it. the five Nations has been always a great deceiver of ours, and there is Nothing true that he says to us. Brothers. this is what we think of the five Nations Returning. We think it is the Mohawks alone that is doing all this Contrary work.

A Black String with little White,

Brothers, we have now settled every thing as far as we think is proper for the present. The only request we

have

but to write you [illegible] you have some of our People [illegible] whom we have suffered much, we desire you not to let them loose. that nothing may be in our way to begin the good work. we beg it of you in a particular manner not to refuse this request. and let every thing be clear before us. the reason we wish you not to refuse us this request, is, to let the Great Spirit above, see nothing would be refused that tended to set our minds at ease and that every thing may go on regular & right to our Minds.

A large Belt.

Brothers. You will still hearken to what we say. we have now finished our business with you for this day. as we said before we had a few words to say to you we now leave it to you to consider when we shall have the good work to begin You will appoint a day yourself. We the Chiefs of the Wyandots are not all arrived yet. and likewise our Nephews the Delawares. they are all on their way & will be here as soon as Possible.

December 14th.

Brothers, We wish to inform you this morning what we have omitted to tell you Yesterday at our Meeting. It is, this one of the principal Chiefs of the Mohawks, named the flying sun one of those who returned back has a considerable number of the Six Nations. with whom we suppose he has very nearly compleated his Intentions towards you. that is he must have Committed Hostilities somewhere about Fort Pitt. we should be

very

them all of us are immediately withdrawn to our people then you will know who are the people that did this mischief.

Brothers. Another circumstance we have to acquaint you with, as those people just now mentioned to you with the Principal Chief of the Miamis, has divided in two parties the Other will Strike this place where we are at present. There is the Delawares living with the Miamis & Shawanoes wish to join the five Nations in their bad designs, and they have Pointed at this Very Place.

Brothers. This is our reasons for informing you with the intentions of our Brothers the five nations. it is far from our inclinations, it is our wishes to make Peace with You. that we may pass backward & forward without any danger.

December 13th.

Brothers,

I have considered what you said to me Yesterday and I now to give you an answer in the name and on the Part of the United States.

Brothers. You told me that you were very happy to meet me here, and thankful to the Great Spirit who had at length allowed us to meet at this place. I also Brothers give thanks to the Great God who has brought us together, and am happy that we see the faces of each other in Peace. it is my wish as it is yours, that we may proceed upon the great busineſs with as little loſs of time as poſsible, then our minds are the same.

A String white

Brothers,

You say that it appears dark where I am and that the fire does not burn clear, but that you will do all in your Power to remove the darkneſs and to make the fire burn bright and will remove the clouds that have overcast the heavens, that every thing may go right.

Brothers, with this String I now help you to make every thing Clear, and wish you to look up towards Heaven to see that the Clouds which intercepted the light of the Sun are retiring. It is indeed the Great Spirit above that can alone shew us the way to establish a firm friendship, with each other, let us both go in earnest about it, and rely for aſsistance on him, and the good work will soon be Compleated. A String white & Black.

Brothers, You have wiped the tears from my Eyes that I might see clear, you have scoured my throat and Cleansed my heart and set it Straight. You have opened my ears that every thing you say to me may enter freely and sink into my heart, I now likewise Brothers, wipe away the tears from your eyes. I scour your throat and Cleanse your heart & set it Straight and I open your Ears that you may hear distinctly every thing that I shall say to you, and that it may sink deep into your hearts and make a lasting impreſsion upon them. It is of great importance to us both. String Black & White

Brothers, I kindled a fire and you put on good wood to make it burn, and it is a fire for all the People of this Country. I will now help to put on more good wood, and our Young men and yours shall blow the fire together until the flame of it reach the Heavens and the Nations shall see it and rejoice in it, because this fire has been made for the good work amongst all the people of this land, and now that it is swept round about and nothing left in the way to hinder us We will sit down together, One on the one side, and the other on the other side of it like friends

A String of White

Brothers,

You say that when you left the fire that was kindled to the River the Bones of our People & of your People were left there: That the mischief was done by People that had no sense, and that you will dig a very deep Grave, and bury the Bones of our Relations and yours together,

Brothers what should we do with the bones but bury them.

Brothers, now that you've buried the Bones of our Relations & yours together very deep, with this String I will help you to put the earth over them, likewise the leaves that are fallen from the trees to cover the place on the Top, that hereafter, we may walk there without thinking of them.

A Belt

Brothers. I am sorry that any of the Five Nations has gone back after Coming so near us, and taken so many men with him, because, as our Brothers had desired it I hoped to have seen them all together. But. Brothers this is no new thing for that man of the five nations. He did just so at Fort-Stanwix in 84. I do not blame you that are here for their going back. The evil spirit is always at work with some one or other to prevent the good work of Peace but be strong and of a good mind and we can do well enough without them. You need have no apprehensions that any mischief will unexpectedly fall upon you on account of the Five Nations returning. the meeting has been long delayed, but we know it was occasioned by him, and it will not be resented against you. I give you my word that you have nothing to apprehend.

A White String

Brothers, hearken to me

You say you think it very strange that the five Nations should have turned back and cannot make out the meaning of it. And that it is because he has been the Occasion of turning back so many People that you think so strange of it, You desire me again Brothers. not to Blame you for it. Brothers. I do not blame you for it but Brothers. if you apprehend any ill from the five Nations that he may lead the People that he has turned back with him to do mischief, you should tell me so explicitely. if it is the Mohawks alone that are working thus against you. You have but little to do with the Mohawks.

A String Black (White)

Brother,

It [illegible] have some of your people [illegible] here [illegible] Nothing may be in the way [illegible] from Beginning the good Work.

Brothers, It is a long time ago that I sent a Message to you at the Sawa River about these people, and I have not yet had an answer to it. I must have an answer to that Speech. It is not enough to come now and say, it was people that had no sense that did the Mischief which occasioned their being tied, the five Nations has pointed out who it was that did it. If you did not receive the Message I sent you at the Sawa River, I have a Copy of it here and will repeat it to You. Brothers if the United States had not sincerely wished to be at Peace with you I had never sent that Message, but gone to war immediately when I was called for on. the great Spirit put it in my heart not to hurt the Community, for it might be that the Mischief was not done with the Knowledge of the Nations.

Brothers, I have here the Speech of the five Nations on that subject which you may hear if you wish it. It was sent to me in the name of all the Nations, You know whether he was authorized or not.

Brothers, It may be that your people are too hard and are hurt by it, Until some run away they were tied very loose: but after that it was necessary that those should be made fast. but to shew you how ready I am to oblige you, I will have their feet let loose which will give them some ease: until you have time to consider of an answer,

A String Black & White

Brothers, The information you gave me this morning, which was forgot yesterday is of very serious importance, it is somewhat extraordinary It should have been forgotten, Measures will be taken to prevent the Mischief if it is not already done.

Brothers, You do not tell me when You got information of the Flying Sun's intentions, nor when he set off, nor what Part you will take Yourselves if it be true. These are things I should Know;

A String Black & White

The Message to the nations in July was then at their Request read and interpreted to them;

Fort Prince Decem.r 15th.

In Council

Present as Yesterday

After the Governor's answer and Message Guyaechea rose and desired the Chiefs to continue upon their seats and likewise requested the same of the Governor.

Conjelanter. Brothers of all the Nations here assembled

then

when I arrived at this Council fire my Nephews the Delawares, requested I apply for the liberty of the prisoners. I made him very easy to see them but yet I could not do it with propriety until you had all assembled this would be the time. (A Black String)

The woman that was with them also requested me to speak for them. still I gave the same answer and desired them not to be uneasy, as he would do every thing in his power for them; he promised me he would do so.—

(A String)

To the Governor:

Brothers,

Tell you listen to me you see that the Nations we are assembled at your fire. Brother, my intention is always to make Peace so long since I arrived and I will assist the Nations in that business. I return thanks for what you have done this day which relieves me

Brothers, Tis true you have loosed their feet one is that all you can do. You have frequently told me we shall be as one, and I consider it so I request they may be at liberty entirely.

Brothers, But you know we have done every thing we can. let others know also that it is so, and let nothing hinder the good Work to go on.

Brothers, You will consider it well and I hope you will be then one of the Gates that the good work may now go on. (A White String.)

[illegible]

Cornplanter to the Chiefs

I have now said all I have to say at Present but I request you to keep your seats and give an answer, as soon as Possible to the Governor.

Captain Joseph a Cayaga Chief rose and addressed the assembly

Brothers of 13

Listen you have heard bad news, the flying Sun, I tell you he was so sick when it is said they were going to Strike, he was hardly able to walk, Then Brant insisted upon us two Chiefs to return back with him. We answered they were determined to hear what their Brother had to say at the Council fire as they could not understand Writing, for that he wrote and got answers and told them what he pleased, and it was not communicated to them. he begs what has been reported may not be taken Notice of as he believes it may turn out to be lies

Deuntete Spoke

Brothers. the United States and all the Nations here assembled. I return thanks to the Great Spirit who has now permitted us to assemble at this Place.

Brothers. it is the Great Spirit that rules us both and Governs our minds,

I think more seriously of these matters than perhaps you may imagine. I am determined for Peace and not for war, then follows what Mr Williams wrote.

Brothers, You have now heard our answer to the Speech You sent us to give all the Chiefs Present at this Fire.

Brothers! hope now will not think light of what we say to you concerning the great Spirit, he has as equal regard for us as for you. Brothers hope every thing we have said will settle to the Bottom of your hearts.

The Governors Reply

Brothers. You want of us to deliver all Prisoners Back we have. I have one circumstance to mention, there is a Prisoner of the Name of Abraham Kuhn, but as Captn. Joseph Brant has prevailed upon him to return with him as being a friend of his. I did not think worth while to send him and bring him here to You, but if he came you was welcome to him. and if you want him yet you must send and get him.

Brothers a String W.d

How is this to be settled concerning the Prisoner which was taken at our Fires. I sent back the man that was taken without any difficulty. before ever we had any thing settled with us Indians, not only this one but we also sent another, with him by Mr. Wilson was there any difficulties, there was not a Single word said against it. as our wishes was to let every thing go on regular.

Brothers. You say you wish to have an answer to your Speech concerning your people that were killed & taken at the Falls of Muskingum, that Speech was never received it was [illegible] from us. You will remember when we had the Council at Fort McIntosh, that you requested of me to return all your people that was with us taken Prisoners, did we not comply with you at that time we did let all loose, why do you ask us again. You well know that with a great deal of Trouble we got the Prisoners back from those People that had taken them. –

Brothers. If you wish to have all your People back we have not in the least any objections. take them every where you see them, as it is impossible for us to make them go, as they are partly mix'd with us.

Brothers, to Convince you that far from refusing any thing you request of me, We have now Eight of your people in my Custody. which we have purchased from our people that is the Cherokee. as we hope to see every thing go on regular We Intend to deliver them, as soon as you think conveniently will serve. We hope our Request of you will not be refused as for our Brothers the Ottawas & Chippewas. they have not one of Your Blood.

The Governor to all the Nations,

Brothers. I am well satisfied with what you have now said & will consider of a proper answer. You are much mistaken if you suppose I will make light of what you say about the Great Spirit. It is upon him we all depend. and I am happy to see you have so just a sense of his Superintending power and providence.

Decentete to the Senecas &c
Brothers.

Brothers. I am very happy to meet you at this Council fire, it is true you have come a great way down this River to do this business. I have also come a great way to compleat the good work we are at. We hope the great Spirit above will protect you and us to go on with this business regularly as we would wish to have it,

Captn. Joseph a Cayaga

Brothers, 'tis very certain that the Chiefs of the Delawares and other Nations have desired you to stop up the Bung. 'tis true if it had been open it might have prevented the good work going on: by keeping back those who might have met it coming in and telling their Chiefs. but now we wish it to leak a little. — A little spirit ordered for them and distributed in the Council house before they rose. the fire Raked up and the Council adjourned to the next day.

December [illegible]th.

The Commrs. in private council with the Chiefs — The Commrs. ask'd them their private Opinion as to the truth of the information they had given about the flying camp & Brant, When they received the information & by whom. and desired them to send up some of their People who they could depend upon to look at the road from Tuscarawas to Fort Pitt. if they had gone along that road they had gone for mischief, if they were not gone along it, they should come back by the falls of Muskingum and so down here, —

The information was brought to them by a Wyandot Chief. He [illegible] he left Brant. After Brant [illegible] stopped at some distance and waited until the Shawanese. The Delawares that came with them and the Miamies came up. They held a Council together and Brant told these people that nothing could be done with the United States that they could be satisfied with. that now they had the choice of peace and war, which ever they determined upon would be his choice. if they chose to go to war he would fight them but if they were for peace he would acquiesce. that they all declared for war, and then it was settled that Brant and his people should strike about fort Pit. and the others should strike at this place In their opinion there was nothing more meant, but it had to prevent these people from coming here but they are not sure of that. They thought it very right to send and see what they were about and they put it upon the Pipe, who said he would send immediately again. for that he had already sent and expected his people in every minute The Governor then asked them to consider in case it should be true that they meant to strike immediately what part they would take Whether [illegible] they would stay on and [illegible] the keys and [illegible] or [illegible] me. [illegible] he did not [illegible] [illegible] but [illegible] then to [illegible] Saturday. [illegible] after the [illegible] had [illegible] present them [illegible] said to have [illegible] flames, [illegible] into the [illegible] soon [illegible] a very [illegible] were called by this [illegible] not to have [illegible] should [illegible] there, [illegible] the [illegible] Natives [illegible] every them [illegible] morning, a [illegible] into the [illegible] told them there was [illegible] for them the [illegible] against them they appeared much [illegible] the [illegible] had refused to go to the [illegible] any thing had been [illegible] them [illegible] thought proper to demand it was likely that the [illegible] would have been buried [illegible] body. [illegible] from [illegible]

the

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[illegible] of the [illegible] about General Harmar, and promise to shew them a copy of the Message he sent to the Hurons, [illegible] the Meeting broke up, the message was afterwards given to them, and they said they had been most grossly imposed upon by Brant.

No further Council this Day.

Fort Harmar December 18th.

In Council

Present

Brothers, I am very happy to meet you on this day which [illegible] requested of [illegible] to give you a positive answer as to [illegible] people that have turned back do any [illegible] I will [illegible] them or not, I told you before that I have only one tongue which spoke from my heart I beg that the six Nations will give their answer to the Council first, as you partly know my sentiments already. It is only the six Nations whose minds we do not know, therefore I beg he will rise.

To the six Nations

Brothers, Listen to me you have heard our voice [illegible] the Indians that are assembled at this Council [illegible] have already told it to You, that the Six Nations are to give their answer first, as they are well acquainted with the Intentions of the five Nations [illegible] have turned [illegible]rk. Sir [illegible] I think they have the Best right to speak [illegible] of the [illegible] this affair.

Brothers, the six Nations.

Br[illegible] [illegible] that the business we have to do [illegible] have yet come [illegible] being our endeavour to cement peace and friendship with our Brothers the United States of America. It is the only thing this Council depends upon [illegible] other Indians that are [illegible] Brothers the United States [illegible] know it is the six Nations that have [illegible] the business of settling a peace [illegible] so back-ward, [illegible] the cause of the Mischief done at the Council fire, therefore [illegible] beg him to speak for himself in presence of all our Brethren, I shall tell you for Instance You all remember the Council fire was made at the Miami River, is there this evil work sprung from our own Councils at the time that [illegible] the Miami River it was [illegible] to Michilimackinac telling our Brothers [illegible] to Strike the United States.

Brothers the six Nations

[illegible] instance of what you have done. at the same time [illegible] drew your sword and stuck it in the Ground.

[illegible] for the Wiachtenoes, desiring them to Strike the United States, and to convince you that I was for peace last spring when the grass was springing out of the ground, We made it our business to go and take the sword out of the hands of the Wiachtenoes, and told them that if they listenend to the Six Nations that our nations would fall, it is peace that we wanted to make with our Brothers the United States, this is the speech I made to them when I took the Sword out of their hands, and desired them to listen to the good works we are making at Detroit.

Brothers, the U. States

You have heard what I said just now, it was us Wyandots and our Nephews the Delawares, likewise our Brothers the different Nations that you see here assembled at this Council fire at that time when I took the sword out of the Wiachtenoes hands. Brothers, Wiachtenoes listen to us of the Wyandott Nation, and our Brother Indians, if you wish to listen to Councils it will be for the good of all our Nations. We shall live. We have kindled a fire for all Nations to meet us and we desire you to kindle another for the different Nations that live about you, and desire them to lay still and listen to the Speech we shall relate to You. it is this, our Brothers the United States have kindled a fire for us. I am now ready to rise up and meet them [illegible] at that fire they [illegible] kindled for [illegible] the [illegible] of [illegible] and [illegible] our Children may [illegible] and [illegible] up [illegible] destructive [illegible] from our hearts to make peace with our Brothers the United States, if the great spirit above will allow us to agree on the good Works we are now going to make at this Council fire. I hope you will follow us and join to do the same as we shall.

Brothers. Listen to us now [illegible] heard what our brothers the Wyandots. Delawares and the different nations said to you just now, When the Six Nations arrived at our Council fire, [illegible] the Wyandots, Delawares and other Nations are invited [illegible] all Nations of Indians to meet at the fire sat down and rose up immediately kindled another fire at the Miami fire [illegible] is the Six Nations alone that has delayed this business, and it is his fault that War has now overtaken us.

Brothers, of the United States. [illegible] from speaking [illegible] the Wrong [illegible] have done, when we the Wyandots were on our way to come to this Council fire, the Six Nations struck us with two Belts of Wampum on our backs, that us Wyandots should have sent to the Seven Nations of the Canawagas, and they [illegible] them to the Six Nations to let them know they were their friends and that they wished

not,

[illegible] [illegible] question the Wyandots should have told
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] told to the Six Nations and let every
thing [illegible] that [illegible] that they [illegible]. This is what the Six
Nations has cast up in our faces. Brothers, you have now
heard what we Indians that are assembled at this Council
[illegible] to you [illegible] now. I suppose you think what can be
the reason that the Indians did not meet here sooner.
[illegible] true you have been here since early in the Spring
Brothers I hope you will not think hard of it, it is not
you alone that has waited so long for this Meeting,
our neck is also stretched, as well as yours with looking
to see our Brother Indians coming to our Council fire.
early in the Spring I was ready to meet you. but as
the Six Nations told us that they would meet us early
in the Spring, and I could see nothing of his coming
and oftentimes he sent Messages to us, that he would be up
in twenty days, and every Vessel I saw coming with her
wings stretched out to the Winds, I expected to see our
Brothers the Six Nations on Board her, but was always
deceived, and this was the case all summer long, now
our necks are yet considerably stretched with looking out
for [illegible] Indians, and it is the same case with us Wyandots
Delawares. Four Brothers, We hope you will over-
look those matters, as the Great Spirit above would have
it so. And there is no remedy for it, except the Six
Nations can press our heads down and put them in

[illegible] place [illegible] this [illegible] the treatment we have [illegible]
Received from the six Nations.

Brothers, [illegible]

[illegible]

Answer to Cayuga Chiefs, [illegible]

Brothers, [illegible] that is good and all [illegible] the Council you [illegible] to [illegible], [illegible]

Brothers the six Nations

Listen to us again,

[illegible] days [illegible] will commence [illegible] really suppose [illegible] you to be delaying this business is true, [illegible] you say [illegible] it is done but in the business [illegible] Brothers the United States that you are delaying, [illegible] the Business with all Brothers the U.S. [illegible] business. Therefore we [illegible] you your answer early in the morning. Your [illegible] must be [illegible] that you cannot [illegible] as [illegible] to Warren.—

Cayuga Chief to the [illegible]

Brothers, Chiefs, Young Men & Warriors listen to what I have to say.

Brothers. You have told us that we have been delaying the Business. I say it is your fault. You have been all day finishing [illegible] every speech. You have made. Brothers, We did not mean to delay the business longer than tomorrow, We must have a little time to Consider of it. We mean to deliver our sentiments to morrow Morning, When we will say all we have to say to You and our Brothers the U. States. —

Fort Harmar 19th. Decr.

In Council,

Cayaga.

Brothers, of all the Nations that are here Listen to what I say from the Six Nations, likewise Brothers 13 United States.

I return you thanks that we have the pleasure to meet our Brothers at this Council fire this Morning.

Brothers, We the Six Nations now put on dry good wood that our Council fire may burn clear.

Brother Indians, Listen now to the Six Nations, God is looking down upon us to see what we are doing, we hope he will enable us to do all things right.

Brothers, Wyandots & Delawares, You asked us yesterday to tell our intentions with regard to what the Governor had proposed. We will now sweep away all obstructions from our fire & You shall hear what we mean.

Brothers, you seemed to point at the Six Nations Yesterday, and said they delayed the business and Caused you a great deal of Trouble, Brothers we wish that you will Listen to us, You said many things to us Yesterday, that might make us

Uneasy

[illegible] to keep [illegible] [illegible] and by all the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] one [illegible] [illegible] Brothers the United States, as they also are concerned [illegible] as [illegible] alone.

A White String.

[illegible] Brothers [illegible] open Lake. Listen to the Speech of the [illegible] Nations. We are all met with our Brothers the 13 U. Fires and are now sitting together.

Brothers, I am now going to give you a reason why the council fire has been extinguished.

Brothers, it is a long time since I feel for you as much as for our Brothers the 13 Fires.

Brothers, I have often desired you to listen to me, but you never would hear me. Brothers, I now tell you that I am sitting with the 13 Fires – and I have got hold of him & I will keep that hold fast.

Brothers, I now hope you will listen well to me, it was me that first kindled the Council fire, and when you were around it, I desired you to go with us to meet our Brothers the 13 Fires.

Brothers, you well recollect that when we kindled the Council fire that you were there at it, as well as our Brothers the Shawnoes & others. My Younger Brothers the Wyandots, you know that the Six Nations desired you and the Shawonoes to rise up and go to the Council fire at Fort Stanwix but you would not do it but hearkened to Brant, and would not hear them. I beg of you all to listen to me now, for then I was interrupted & Brant went away I did not know where which caused great confusion in the Nations.

Brothers. You are very well acquainted with what I said, and you know that I sent to you to rise and go to the Council fire, You Wyandots also know that when you Received my speech you did not hearken to it, but you and the Shawonoes rose up and went away.

I am very sorry that our young Brothers the Shawonoes will not let any good thing that is said to him enter into his Heart but throws it away and will not listen to it. it makes me very sorry that the Shawonoes would not hear me as they were present when I dug a deep hole, & buried up every thing that had happened with our Brothers the Thirteen fires, Brothers. I have not forgot what we did there, when I met our Brothers the 13 fires at their Council fire, I well remember that we made a Strong and firm peace and no-

[illegible] [illegible] that I have forced [illegible] out of the Hand of [illegible] Brothers the 13 fires [illegible]. Neither have I stolen a Single [illegible] from them. I say that the Shawanese will first listen to me, and you Wyandots and Delawares listen well to what I am now going to say. The Shawanese forgot before they arrived at their own homes what I had told them and advised them to think of. — Cornplanter. Brothers. I wish that what I now say to you, you will let it sink into your hearts, and receive it well. Brothers. I am very sorry that you are so very foolish. I pity you. Your folly was the cause of the fall of one of your Brothers for which I am very sorry.

A String Black & White

Brothers. After I made peace with the 13. Fires You different Nations reflected upon me and blamed me, and said that I sold your lands.

Brothers and friends. You said a great deal about it, but it never disturbed me in the least. If I had got angry it would have been hurtful to you all, my younger Brothers. I took pity on you, and I rose up from our Council fire, went to the Great Council of the 13 fires. Brothers. I am sorry while I was upon that business. You took up the Tomahawk and struck towards the sun setting.

Brothers. My Brothers the thirteen fires desired me to be strong, to tell you to live in peace that our women and Children might live happily as long at the sun should shine, Brothers when I was at the great Council, they told me that the line ran thro' the middle of the Lakes to the Mississippi, and that the King of England had made that line with him: when I returned from the great Council. I brought you the Copy of the treaty between our brothers the U. States and the great King. You must rember that I left it with you as I sat at our Great Council fire and told you that I had seen the Original with the Great seal of England. and it was signed by the King of England with his own hand.

Brothers. Listen well to me. when I returned to You at our Council, for you would not listen to me but insisted to speak first. Brothers. the Shawanoes then spoke to me and said, I have now got the Tomahawk in my hand that was given me by the great King of England to strike the 13 fires. he has not taken it out of my hand and I will use it, It was then Bloody. that is the reason they would not hear me. If you recollect I told You that if any person was proud of heart they would surely meet with trouble. I also informed You that I had been very proud of heart myself and was well acquainted with the [illegible] grieved heart meets with.

Brothers, the Wyandotts listen to me, 'tis now the Senecas that speak. You never would listen to what I have said but I beg you You will now hear me.

Brothers, in the Nations setting round you would not listen to me but listened to Brant Yesterday you was pointing at me and said, I did hearken to what Brant had said, and that you did not listen to him. Brothers, You have now heard what I have said. And I hope you will not now forget it,

a White String

Brothers the Wyandotts. Listen well to me. I have considered well what you have said Yesterday, and the Great God was looking down upon me all the time I was thinking of it. Yesterday if you recollect, you told me Brant had Behaved very bad, Listen now to the Senecas who speak.

Brothers. You spoke truth Yesterday in what you said of Brant. I hope You of the 13 fires as well as our Brothers Indians here assembled will keep Your Ears well open to hear me. Brothers. I now tell you, that I take Brant and set him down in his Chair at home and he shall not stir out of his house but

will

[illegible] my own fire first, he shall no more run about amongst the Nations disturbing them and causing trouble.

Brothers. we now want to let this business go on well and that we may all live, I do not want Brant to die, let him live I pity him Brothers. Take this string in remembrance of what the Six Nations have said.

A Black & White String

Brothers, I hope now you have all heard that I have put Brant up in his house. I now give this String to you our Brothers the 13 United States, that he may not forget what I have done.

A White String

Brothers. The Wyandots and all other tribes here assembled. Listen now to me brothers the Wyandots You always assisted Brant in his bad conduct and was like to be the cause of our being nearly destroyed from this Island. Brothers the Wyandots, Listen well to me. You know that the five Nations always had pity on you, when you was in a bad way we assisted you Brothers. I have considered what our forefathers have said and remember it well. You must also remember it and tell it to the Different nations towards the sun setting, make them recollect it and advise them to good.

Brothers. the Wyandots, I pray to God to let your hearts

be

[illegible] the Officers [illegible] [illegible] Brothers the [illegible] may be [illegible].

Brothers. [illegible] not [illegible] [illegible] weekly to [illegible] Natives towards the [illegible] that they may be punished for doing any mischief and I say so it quickly [illegible]. Brothers the Officers only know that we [illegible] to live friendly with them.

[illegible] Black & White

Conferences. [illegible] I [illegible] going [illegible] the Brothers.

[illegible] I [illegible] you father because I have come out of thy belly

Father, I am now going to tell you when you first came into this Island. Father you know that when you came first to this Island and saw the fire Natives, you [illegible] them, as you know it is a great and [illegible] they were [illegible] the first of our Country [illegible] and then they were [illegible], and [illegible] the other and they [illegible] all [illegible] the [illegible]. Father may [illegible] so [illegible] that [illegible] you. Father. I hope you look up towards Heaven & return thanks to God for your greatness.

Father. You told me that all this land is yours.

I hope you will take pity on the Native inhabitants of this Country. as they took pity on you when you first arrived at this Island.

Father. I know it is in your power to satisfy all these people here as they are dissatisfied. Listen well to what I say & I hope God will make every thing right. I hope you will consider well of the Great Business. You have Charge of all this land, and I hope you will satisfy the Minds of all that are uneasy. let them know the Boundary line of your land and they will soon acquaint all the Nations with it. in order that they may be Satisfied

Cornplanters, let what you now do be strong that it may last as long as the Heavens shall remain. Consider well of this Business. Consider these People. You know they live by Hunting.

Now I am done speaking to you about the Lands When God first let you down upon this Island. he had pity upon you and has assisted you. and now you know how to make every thing and have every thing in plenty. Brothers. I see you are well Cloathed. I wish you would also Cloath our Brothers Indians. that they may be warm at our Council. and they will be pleased. I wish what you do to be lasting that it may never grow old. Father. this is one of our old Council Belts. I now make it new and I hope you will consider well what I have said that all may be right. Father take the End of this Belt in your hand you have now hold of the Belt with all the Nations. and hope you will think well of it and it shall tie us together that we cannot be separated.

A Belt

Now I have finished all I have to say you the Five Nations

December 17th

The Chiefs in Council by themselves.

December 19th.

Brothers of all Nations here assembled.

The answer you made to me on the 15th and what has now been said has given my heart some ease. I thought it very strange that no notice was taken of the Message I sent to the Nations so long ago as July. it looked as if the Mischief that was Done ~~was done~~ at the falls had been within their their Knowledge and by their Directions. Now I am satisfied that it was not so and as the Speech was concealed from them it was not possible that they should give an answer to it.

A String White

Brothers you might have seen that I did not think the Nations generally were concerned in that Mischief. by the readiness with which I gave up one of the Men to Your Nephews the Delawares. If it had been the publick act of all the Nations. None of them could ever have been released all the Nations of the World agree in punishing such flagrant breaches of the publick faith

A String white.

Brothers. the Wyandots. I thank you for the pains you have taken to obtain. with a design to send them home, our flesh and blood from the People who made them prisoners. It was a good work and the Great Spirit who knows the hearts and sees the Actions of all Mankind will regard you for it. It is his command that we should love one another and be kind to each other and we are all the work of his hands. But Brothers there is a Custom got in amongst you, of one Nation Making prisoners, and another buying them. this Custom must be put a stop to for as long as the foolish people who love Mischief can sell the prisoners they take. they will continue to take them and we never shall have peace that will last. I will think no more of the Mischief that was done up the River- the waters of forgetfulness shall overflow the place and wash out every trace of it. that it may no more trouble either you or us. It was the act of people who had no sense. and these are such among all Nations. A White & Black String

Brothers the Wyandots

If what we may said any thing again but giving up Prisoners, did you not deliver all you had agreeable to your Engagements at Fort McIntosh.

Brothers, take Notice what I said about prisoners was to all the Nations that were assembled at the Miamis River. You the five Nations the Senecas, the Wyandots and the Delawares of the West side did fulfill your Engagements and gave up your prisoners, but since the Treaty at Fort McIntosh, there have been many of our people made prisoners by some of other Nations. As they all are not now here as I expected that matter must have been settled before we could have gone one step forwards in the great work. as they are not all here their absence shall not hinder it with those that are come. A String Black and White.

Brothers of all the Nations present,

Now our hearts are at ease, & shall be ready to proceed with you in the good Work) whenever we have settled about the delivery of the prisoners that are in the hands of the Wyandots) there are likewise that I know of with the Ottowas, and in the performance of it they must leave in my hands as hostages some of their People. when they have pointed out the persons, the prisoners here will be delivered to you and I will then with pleasure hear what you have to say to me on the great Business. —

Tuentete

Deuentete.

Brothers U. States Listen to all the Nations that are round this fire, concerning what I said Yesterday that happened to us Indians. I am very happy to see every thing did in a proper manner this day. as the great Spirit above has been their teacher to settle it, in the manner they have done. we take and bury every thing that was harsh betwixt us, & will think no more of it.

Brothers U.S.

We have now met here at this fire by the permission of the Great Spirit. You say in regard of the prisoners that you have in your poſseſsion. that, when I leave some of my men as hostages Until I return the prisoners I have, then you will comply with us. after that all our buſineſs shall go on regularly. we shall take into consideration this night and give you answer to morrow. every thing you have said to me goes to the bottom of my heart, as I told you before. We are people that wish to make peace and be in friendship with You.

A Black King.

Deuentete

Brothers. U. S. You point at me Wyandot & the Ottowas, in particular of having some of Your people I wish to inform you there is one part of the Six Nations aſsembled in this house [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] morning, but when we [illegible] [illegible] the Council [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] an answer, as it is now here but the business that you know we have come about, should be done as soon as possible

20th December

The Chiefs of the Wyandots and other Nations sent to request that the Council might be adjourned for three days, as it was necessary for them to change their Camps, the Grass for their horses being exhausted, and besides all their principal men were not yet arrived, but by that time they would certainly be up which was agreed to.

23d. A Message from Shendeta the head man of the Wyandots requesting the Meeting might be delayed one day longer as he had but just arrived, and required a little time to refresh himself and get information of what was done

In Council Decr. 28th.

Shendeta.

Brothers, Listen to me the Indians that are assembled with you this day as is appointed by the Great Spirit above, 'tis he alone that made us all. Brothers. You tell us to begin with this Work as soon as we please that you might hear what we have to say, Brothers. We are well acquainted with the treaty of peace you made with our great father the King.

Brothers. This was not the case the last war you had with the King of France, when you made peace with them it was made known to all nations on this Island but it was not the case with the last treaty. —

Brothers, It is the request of us Wyandots Ottawas — Chippewas and all our Brethren the Indians that are assembled, it is our request to know how you made the treaty with the King of England. We desire you would inform us now.

Brothers. The great King of England our Father has kept this affair quite a secret. he has kept us ignorant of it. that is the reason we now ask it of you.

Brothers, It is very hard that our father has kept this from our knowledge, it is the great Spirit above that made us. it was never known that the Father should keep his Children in ignorance of the World.

Brothers, Our father tells us that he never gave our Country away to the United States. it was only the Posts that are garrisoned, he likewise tells us that the United States tell great falsehoods in saying he gave away our Country to them. that is the reason we now request of you the truth of this matter.

A Belt.

The -

[illegible] Letters and the [illegible] 1783 as since [illegible] to [illegible] pleas[e].

Brothers. [illegible] that we rekindled at this Council fire, You have made known to us the treaty you held with the King. & the different Nations that are assembled at this Council fire it was kindled for you as well as for all the Nations.) We [illegible] your voice concerning the treaty We cannot say any thing further to any, it is to be hoped the Great Spirit above will [illegible] us the way how to speak [illegible] hope that [illegible] as I would wish peace and friendship should remain between you and us. A White String Wampum

In Council Dec: 29th 1788.

Shawnese. Brothers. We are very happy to meet you here this morning and as it has pleased the Great Spirit above that we should meet this day to commence the Good Work, we are going about. we hope he will teach us how to do it.

Brothers. We now renew the fire for all the Nations that are assembled. as well as for the 13 U. States. & we'll put the fire in proper order. Nothing shall remain but the Council itself A White String

Brothers. We are very happy you informed us Yesterday [illegible] of the Countries is between you and us. likewise you inform us [illegible] the [illegible] of the same. we all give you thanks that you have let us to the light of it,

Brothers. we told You yesterday that we would give an answer this Evening what shall be spoken in behalf of all the Nations that you see here present. Whenever our Brother [illegible] comes in, that is yet wanting in Council. We shall begin. A String Black & White

Brothers. listen to us well, what I say to you concerning what has happened with us since We have been in this Country. I hope you will have pity on me Wyandot if I should speak wrong in your Opinion.

Brothers, It is me that you see standing here an Indian. I [illegible] you know how I came first to this Country, as I dreamed about it some time ago which I shall relate to You Now.

Brothers. It is this when I came into this Country first the Dreams that I have had has informed me that the Wyandot Nation was the first man that the great Spirit placed upon this ground.

Brothers. here is my Nephews the Delawares that came next after me, he is my own Nephew and this was my dream. Brothers, at that time I sent some of my Nephews the Delawares to the sea Shore to the East to look out and see when great beasts should

come

[illegible]

[illegible] it upon [illegible] upon the Waters of the Sea [illegible] [illegible] the French [illegible] Friendship I shall only [illegible] [illegible] out of the Earth in this Country. Brothers. I sent my Nephew a second time to the sea shore upon the same business as he went before, and the Next thing he saw coming upon the Water was yourself Brother and you landed here in this Island and you begged the favor of my nephew to let you remain only one night on shore. he replied to you that he was not master. that there was a great man where he came from who was his Uncle. that he could not give him a positive answer until he went back to him.

Brothers. My Nephews the Delawares came back with this account to me. that he had seen another great Beast coming upon the Waters of the Sea and that it had landed upon the Shore, and requested of me to let him Remain only for one night. I sent him Back immeadiately and on his way down he met with the Six Nations who asked my nephew who he was. he replied that he was the Nephew of the Wyandots who was the great man of this Country. he then says the Six Nations whom you call the Wyandot is my Brother. Brother: I permitted you to remain one night as you had requested of me. and after that you begged of me to let you have a little ground, to make your fires upon, as you said you would visit me very often. and the quantity of land you requested of me was as much as one Cow hide would Cover.

Brothers. my Nephew then agreed with you for as much land as one cow hide would Cover. and you gave him a little of your tempting liquor which made him a little giddy & foolish. and in the mean time you cut this cow hide into a String that Covered a considerable Quantity of ground. and that is the way you first took me in for a piece of Land in this Country.

Brothers. after my Nephew came to his senses and saw what you had done to him. he said to you. you have cheated me for once, is this the way you are going to treat me always, while you remain in this Country? You replied then. no Brother, far from it I do not mean to treat you in that manner. but still you had another request to make of him. that was. an addition of more land to that you had already got, as you would go no distance out to hunt. but only round the fences. Not only this, but you had a great many People to take care of, and that Place was too small.

Brothers. My Nephew complied with your request for a Quantity of land as far as a man could go in a day and Back again. and you had and one of the [illegible] [illegible] of Englishes [illegible] this business for [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] &c. When we came to [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] we got to [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] day, and that was the way you got the second [illegible] These are the dreams that I have dreamt.

Brothers, here is the second [illegible] you made upon me [illegible] my [illegible], I told you that this would always [illegible] in the case, if you sat down [illegible] [illegible] immediately came to me Wyandot, who was the Greatest man known in the Country among us Indians, [illegible] [illegible] him [illegible] any more land after this, it is what we will do to [illegible] if we refuse him a land request: this is the [illegible] of the Dream. I am but a foolish man that you see here standing.

[illegible] White

Brothers. You have now heard my dream now [illegible] the [illegible] that you have got since, and how you advanced so far this way I cannot tell, as I have not dreamt of it, but here are Belts which came from you It is your voice. Brothers, here is one of the Belts which I now present to you with the road which you made for us, and here are pieces of Parchment, with [illegible] [illegible] them It seems very dirty at present. Brothers. I shall only tell you a few words on this Belt, as I have no occasion to tell you all as it came from your own mouth.

it is this, when we join'd hand in hand that nothing should separate them from each other. Brothers. this is what you said to me when you first saw me, Wyandot in this Country, you gave me this Belt as a token of friendship. that if any thing amiss should hereafter arise between us in this country. that I might have this to shew you, and you could then be able to see what you had said to me. Brothers. I do not remember what you have said upon this Belt, as when it was given. I suppose I was then Nothing but Water.

Brothers. there is another Belt. which I remember perfectly well. when it was given, I was then just a young man grown. Brothers. the first Quarrel you had with the French, which was an engagement you had with them at Fort Pit. We then several Chiefs were then present at that time.

Brothers. you told me it was very hard that my Father the French had stopped up the road that you had made, for you and me, for it was a fine road Brothers. say you the road is now stopped between you and me. The French will sometime or other, come with his Tomahawk and beg of you to accept of it and tell if you dont, you will be all destroyed Brothers, you hear the road is stop'd up between us, I told you that nothing should ever part our hands asunder, without cutting our arms off. and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] with the Other. Brothers, [illegible] [illegible] the same, and when you disagreed with our Father, the English, you desired us not to interfere or we should be destroyed by our Father and this is all I have to say upon this subject. I only wish you to see this once more what you have done with us, as you said at that time nothing should part our Lands as we would join them with a Chain of Iron.

Two Belts.

Brothers,

[illegible] [illegible] I shall say to you upon this Belt [illegible] Belongs to us Indians as you call us. We are a poor helpless people. We do not know how to read or write, this is our book which we eat by, what has happened in former days. And this is a Belt which the Six Nations has given us together with his Brother the British.

Brothers. It is this when I received this Belt my Father and the Six Nations our Brothers told me that you had settled affairs concerning this Country and told me here was the division of the Country, and it is some [illegible] me to take care of this Country, and live in peace with one another. You said there here on the South side of the Ohio is a tract of Land which I have bought from the Six Nations, and this is the way the division was made.

Brothers,

It is the request of all the Nations here present friend to You, to have pity & compassion on them, and think how hard it would be for them to loose the remaining part of their Country, let the Ohio be the Boundary line as it was concluded upon before, We are poor helpless people.

Brothers we request of You, all of us Nations that are here present, not to refuse this request we have made to you, as we are poor helpless people, and your compliance will be the cause of the good Business to go on regular and that our Young men may hereafter hunt without any danger of being Molested.

Brothers, these are the proposals we agreed upon. it was the Ohio made the Division between us and the Six Nations, it is him that you have to settle with for that side of the River, and us for the other, this is what our Father, the British, and our Brothers the Six Nations desired us to do

We are extremely happy to hear you say that every thing should go on regular, that we may live in peace as long as the World shall stand.

Brothers, consider, We have been leaving our whole trust in this business to the great Spirit above, that he may lead us in the Right way, in it Think what a great sin We shall commit if we draw back from what we have said. it is us Indians that you see assembled here that have spoken this to you we shall allow any of them

to,

[illegible] but [illegible] of our country.)

[illegible] upon [illegible] with [illegible]

[illegible] be [illegible]

us to [illegible] what our Elder [illegible] in the [illegible] but [illegible] a string of white which I deliver to you. You will keep it in your possession that you may see what we have said to you upon the other Belt.   A Belt

Delawares &c.

Brothers, We are now gone thro' this day in our business which the great Spirit has been pleased to allow us to meet upon this Morning. We hope now that he will pass us thro' this Night, that we may all rise tomorrow morning with ease, as it is him alone we look to for assistance. You told us just now that we must meet early tomorrow morning. We want of you to give us a glass of Water that we may come together chearfully in the morning.

A Speech delivered by the Wyandots, Delawares, Ottawas, Chippewas, Potawatamies and Six Nations

Fort Harmar 11th Jany
1789

Brothers,

We are very happy to meet You here

[illegible] days [illegible] appointed fires.
We told you yesterday that we would meet you this day.
and we have accordingly done it, and we must give
thanks to the great God above.

Brothers: You will recollect what you said to us a few days ago, You told us that we had settled every thing that was happened at our fire up the river, and after we had made a new fire we then came upon the business of the line that was made at Fort McIntosh. You told us to consider well upon that treaty.

Brothers. As to what you said to us first We told you that in four days, we would be ready to let you have an answer the reason we did not come as soon as we proposed is that the Chiefs had not all arrived that was the cause of detaining this business.

Brothers, You told us when we assembled the second time us Indians that you see now here present, You told us a second time that we should Consider well what was done at the treaty of Fort McIntosh as it was of great consequence to us both. You said I request of all you indians that are here at this council-fire to take it into your serious consideration.

Brothers of the U States

Listen well to what we shall say to you sometime ago there was a Speech sent to you requesting [illegible] [illegible] to [illegible] [illegible] now, that it was the desire of all Nations of Indians to have another Council-fire and [illegible] complied with our request as the great spirit has allowed you to agree with us, it is he alone that has shewn you the right way to go about this business. You will recollect that before we sent our Message, you wanted to kindle a fire for us, and it did not take place; as we were not at that time agreed with other Nations. Brothers, You now tell us to consider well what was done at Fort McIntosh, it is now going on three years that we have been always considering of it. and we dont understand you how you came to get this land from our Father, as none of us know any thing about it, we cannot find out when it was that we should have given our lands to our Father, but as you requested us to consider well we have done so. Brothers, We wish to acquaint you that there was but two Nations appointed by us Chiefs, which were the Wyandot's & Delawares, to go and hear what our Brothers had to say. as for other nations that happened to fall in with those two Nations, they were not sent, but were out hunting at the time. Brothers. Listen well to us, we are now come to settle all business that was left undone in answer to what you say about the Treaty held at McIntosh. We Know that every thing was settled at that time according to your wishes. We are desirous to know how our great father came by the land for when the great Spirit made the land it was for the Indians and not for the white People.

Brothers. We are very sorry that you did not make enquiry amongst us Indians before you entered into that business, to know whether we had given the right of the land to our Father. as you very well know that this Country did belong to us Indians. if you had done this at first, all this trouble would have been saved, and to our satisfaction.

Brothers. listen well to us Indians that are assembled here this day you must not think that what we say is from us only that are here. it is from all the nations that are upon this Island. as you have kindled this fire for that purpose you requested us to consider well what passed at Mc Intosh We now wish to let you know we are a People that cannot Read & Write and we shall explain it to you by Rivers. here is Muskingum up to Tuscaraws and across to the carrying place coming to the heads of Cayaga. and down that River til it empties into Lake Erie. here is the Ohio. up this River 'til it comes to the forks of Allegany River to the French Creek, from that to the Lake Erie again then along the lake to the mouth of Cayaga: now Brothers, here is a large tract of Land that we shall give you gratis, for you to plant corn in or whatever use you please to make of it. what we give you to consider properly what [illegible] the [illegible] done to us Indians, [illegible] with [illegible] You know that to be all true.

A Belt,

Brothers, listen to us Indians that are now assembled, you desire us to consider what was done at Fort McIntosh, and we have done it, [illegible] appointed by the Great Spirit that we should [illegible] what we have done, and it is that we put our eye there on, and [illegible] wishes that we should be in peace and friendship. We hope you will take the Treaty into serious consideration, as we have before mentioned.

Brothers, I hope you will take into consideration as we have already desired you concerning these lines we have mentioned we told you we could not read or write and this was reason for taking this river for a token, for a division between us Indians & you, down the Ohio River to the mouth thereof. we think that this should be so. and that this is the Boundaries of the white people & no farther You have [illegible] our land but it is very small. Be strong Brothers and consider what we have said to you just now. if you wish to live in peace with us. Brothers, we have now explained to you in full our Sentiments We hope that you will think seriously of it. and not do contrary to it, as we wish to live in Peace & friendship, with you, these are our reasons for telling you to be strong, and consider well our situation, You

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You must know that we never think of peace if you do not think seriously of it. Consider of the Generations that are to come, how they will praise us if we do this work Compleatly, and see that we thought of them as well as of ourselves, and if we can agree peace and friendship shall be Establishe between us.

A Belt.

Brothers. &c

This is a day that the great Spirit has appointed for us to Speak and give our sentiments to you, We wish not him. as we had promised that we would be ruled by him alone, and you likewise did the same. as it is our desire to have peace and friendship with You, as long as the world shall stand. If we should do otherwise we should go contrary to his Will. Be Strong Brothers and consider well what we are about. It will be for the benefit of our women and Children at Present, as well as those who are to come. if we can compleat this business according to our wishes. The great Spirit hears what we now say, and you must consider that he will be much offended at us if we disagree.

A White String

Brothers. You told us the other day in Council that we should be under the necessity of leaving a few of our People here as hostages, until we should bring your own flesh and blood that was amongst us You told us that if we would do this: You would let out our People. who are now here and suffering this is easily complied with. Brothers this shall not put a hindrance to our Good Works. We have considered of it and [illegible] to it. You will just let us know your Opinion [illegible] what we have said just now.

Brothers, We have finished what we had to say to you. We are very happy that you have listened to us, and shall return thanks to the great Spirit that nothing amiss has happened to us since we have been here, and we now deliver our [illegible], but it must [illegible] to the Creek, [illegible] now have the Cherokees [illegible]. it is me alone that has been [illegible]ed. We know now that you can make people warm without fire. I hope you will warm all those that sit round.

The Governor.

I have listened attentively to all you have said. The proposal you have made is precisely the same which was sent for me by Brant. Which I have already replied at large. You are also under a Mistake about the Lands you offer to give us, but at present I will say no more about it. To-morrow you shall have a particular answer to every thing you have now said.

The Fire Covered up and adjourned

5th The Governor not able to attend Council

January 6th.

Brothers. I am glad to see you all assembled here this morning, and I return thanks to God Almighty that I am now able to meet you.

Brothers. In answer to what you said to me two days ago I have to answer to you, that I did not expect to have heard that proposal of giving certain lands to the U States, again renewed, as I had given so full an answer to it when it was sent forward from Licking Creek, and told you expressly that it could not be admitted, truly if this is what we have been waiting for, our time has been spent to very little purpose. Brothers. You say I have desired you to think well of what was done at Fort Mc Intosh, and that you have been considering of it, but cannot understand how we came to get this land of the King of England, as none of you knew any thing about it, nor when it was that your lands were given to him. Brothers. I did desire you to consider well of what was done at Fort Mc Intosh, because it was there that a Boundary was first Established, Between the Wyandots Delawares & other nations Westward, & the United States. All the Boundaries that were made between the Indian Nations & the English People in America before that, were made with the King of England whose subjects they then were. The Treaties were called by his Orders & held by his Officers. If you were cheated at them, as you intimate, it was by them you were cheated, not by the American People, who were not allowed to have any thing to do with Indian affairs at all.

Brothers

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Brothers. A few days ago I found in the body of the Deed of the Treaty when the Country was given up to the United States, I found you are very particular in Engrossing that Deed by the King, you may [illegible] where the Lines are all marked agreeable to the Treaty, and in the answer I sent to your Message at Licking Creek I endeavoured to explain to you why we had a right to do as we did with your Lands, You say you cannot understand it I will endeavour to explain it to you in another manner, suppose that a war was likely to happen between the Wyandots and some other Nation, and the Shawnoes would be of much use to either party. but the Wyandots trusting to the goodness of their cause and their own bravery, are unwilling to involve any body else in their quarrel, they send to the Shawnoes and tell them what is likely to happen and that perhaps it may go hard with them, but they do not ask them (the Shawnoes) to assist them because should that other Nation get the better, the Shawnoes who have nothing to do with the Quarrel, would certainly be destroyed, the Shawnoes solemnly promise to set still and help neither party, but for all that they all join that other Nation, the war goes on a long time with various success, but at last the Wyandots get the better and that other Nation begs for Peace.

and offer as a Condition all the Lands of their Confederates the Shawanoes, and a peace is accordingly made. Do you not think the Wyandots have got a very good right to that land? it is true the Shawanoes are still in Possession and may refuse to give it up. but as the Wyandots are now at Peace with all the world there will be very little difficulty in drawing them off from it thô it may cost them some men. In that situation the Wyandots send to the Shawanoes and tell them that they have made peace with that other nation, who have not only left them the Shawanoes to shift for themselves. but have given them their Country. But unwilling to add to their Misfortunes. they may have peace upon surrendering a part of their Country to make amends for the injuries they did them by joining their Enemies. Do you not think the Wyandots would in this case be very kind and generous to the Shawanoes and that the Boundary agreed to between them on that condition ought to stand. and that the Shawanoes would act very unjustly and ungratefully if they should Come some time afterwards and say they were dissatisfied with it, and that. that other nation had no right to give away their Lands. Yes! I know you would think so and would laugh at them Just so it was with the British & You my Brothers.

Contrary to your solemn engagement You joined them in the War against us and did us much harm. After a long struggle we got the better, they asked for peace and your lands given up as part of the price. The United States would have been justified to all the World to have marched their Armies into your Country and punished you in an exemplary manner, but they chose to give an example of Clemency. They considered that the War had spread Misery enough over many countrys and were desirous to prevent its spreading wider. They offered You peace upon the condition of surrendering a part of Your Country. You accepted it upon that condition, and a boundary was Established between you and them at the Oneida Carrying place. Fort McIntosh, and the Miamis River. It was for these reasons I desired you to consider well upon what was done at these several Treaties. If there were ever engagements that should be binding upon Mankind, they were these, for the U States, not only buried the remembrance of past injuries but made a generous division of the Ceded Country with You, and gave you very valuable presents of Goods besides, indeed as they allowed you to hunt the Country. They took nothing from you that was of any use to you, their conduct was most Generous, and you thought so then, if you had not listened to Evil Councillors you would never have thought otherwise, they have deceived you before, and they are deceiving you now, Brothers. you make frequent appeals to the Great Spirit, and they were not less frequently made at McIntosh Do you suppose that the transactions there are unknown to him, or that the Solemn declarations of your sincerity are forgotten by him? Be not deceived god is not mocked, he is the searcher of hearts and abhors the lying lips.

Brothers. You say there were but two Nations appointed to go to Fort McIntosh, the Delawares & Wyandots, and that the others fell in by accident. "Brothers. how are we to know who comes by accident, or who by appointment. If you admit them into council and speak in their Names must we not conclude that they are all by appointment, besides the Wyandots & Delawares there were at McIntosh. Munsees. Chippewas. Ottawas and Shawanoes, and the Half King declared he spoke in the Name of all the Nations present; Brothers. the U States ask no lands of the Indian Nations, Gratis. when they want lands, and the Nations are willing to sell, they will buy from them at an agreed price, they scorn equally to tell them Falsehoods as to Cheat them. But you are mistaken even about the Lands You offer. From the mouth of little Beaver Creek up to the Lake, and from thence East to the line of New York, and then;

ver South of the Ohio which come to the mouth or near it of Connewango and so down to little Beaver: was sold to the State of Pennsylvania at McIntosh and paid for by them, part at the time, which you yourselves Recd. and the rest was delivered the Next summer at the Mouth of the Tioga as Captn. Joseph there sitting very well Knows. Brothers. I have repeatedly told you it is the wish of the United States to live in peace with all the World. I have told you likewise that if you will have war you may have war. but that you may be convinced I am earnest in my desires for peace, if you will renew and Confirm the Boundary Established at Fort McIntosh, an Article shall be inserted in the treaty confirming to you the right to hunt in it, which was before agreed between the Commissioners & you but not made an article of. And a farther consideration I will add a Quantity of Goods. the Value of which shall be agreed upon between us. We have now spent a great deal of time about this Affair. I shall expect your answer to morrow, and will have the writings prepared.

January 7th 89

Shendata

Brothers, listen to what we Indians that are assembled, shall say to you this day which the Great Spirit above has appointed for us. we have passed thro' this day with great pleasure. Brothers, we had a Meeting here when you explained your sentiments to us Indians, and we are now assembled to give you our answer.

Brothers, I shall now speak in answer to what you said yesterday, as it is out my power to explain the whole. there are only Six Nations from our Quarter that are assembled here, and they are the whole that have to answer you at Present.—

Brothers. I now know the Contents of all the business we are upon concerning the lands and it has entered to the bottom of my heart. Brothers, the Comparison you made with respect to the war the Wyandots had with a powerful Nation of Indians was a true one for it was once the Case.

Brothers. It is very true that the lands were once in possession of us Wyandots, and there was several that at that time had no land and we gave them land to set down upon. Brothers. the Comparison you made yesterday is all very right and you are not Unacquainted with it. therefore we hope you will take Pity upon us Indians & follow the same rule.

Brothers. We should be very happy if you could remove a little upon this side the line and save us a small proportion of Land, as you know that we Indians are a poor helpless set of

People. Brothers, you mentioned to us Yesterday that if we wanted to make war, we should have it, but that is far from our wish. We do not desire any thing of that kind in this World, as it is much against the will of our God. We are sorry that you mentioned it, as we came here for peace and to Establish friendship with you.

Brothers. We do not wish to speak of war with you as we did not come here to make it with you, We came here only to settle all Complaints that were made Concerning the Lands and we hope this affair is now finished. Believe me brothers, I shall never come again as long as this world shall stand [illegible] this Business. Brothers, I told you just now that I would never return again upon the same business we are now about. I hope that you'll comply with our request of removing your line a little way. You likewise told us that you would put the agreement for our hunting in your Articles, We hope you will do so, that our young men may hunt with safety.

A Black & White String

Brothers,

We have a few words more to speak to you that is us Wyandots and our Nephews the Delawares and likewise the rest of our Brethren which now contains Seven different Nations, with the Six Nations

We hope now the business is Compleated and finished and peace will insue. we wish to speak a few words with you concerning trade

Brothers. You have promised to us Indians that if the good business could be finished in a proper manner according to your wishes, that you assist us to get goods cheaper than what they are, and if you do this your Brothers will thank you very kindly for it.

Brothers. It is this we would wish you to do. Your peoples in General are very fond of Raccoons, We would be very happy if you would take two Raccoons for one Buck. Another thing, I have to mention to you. It is the Common Custom to take A Buck Skin for a Buck, but there is one evil attends it. that is if the Buck has not Ears to it they will not take it For a Buck. We suppose from this that the Ears are of great Value.

A White String

This is all the Indians have to say to you. you may include us all the Six different Nations.

There are two things I forgot to mention. that is that a bear Skin should be equal to two Bucks, and I would wish that A Blacksmith should be Established here to repair our rifles Tomahawks & other Utensils, Gratis, 8th. & 9th.

Employed in preparing the treaties 10th. got thro' the signing with the Wyandots, Delawares, Chippewas - Ottawas, Potowatamies and Sacs in part — 11th. finished the signing with them & the Six Nations, gave up two prisoners those whom the Wyandots had mentioned.

The Corn Planter

Father. All Nations of Indians wished this fire to be kindled, and we would wish that it may terminate well.

I now tell you that what is now done at this Council fire has been done strong. We will hold it so and keep firm to the great Business

Our hands are now firmly joined with yours and whatever strikes at the one to shed Blood will be felt by both. if any person has an intention to do You harm you must tell me of it that I may be ready to assist if any danger should appear. Whenever You have heard something of this Kind. You will tell me of it that I may be able to assist you in time

Father, the reason that I entered into the war which was that I was deceived into it by the King of England it was not by my own will, it was for want of knowing how things were. I now hope that it is

over

ever, and that you will tell me when any thing of that kind is like to happen again.

We will if consulted stand together with you, and be one People. that if any thing should be about to happen either with one or the Other, we may consult together & act accordingly.

Do not deceive us if you think we are like to fall tell us plainly and then we shall know what to do.

We now the Six Nations acquaint you that our Opinion is, we are one people. and we will live as such and Unite ourselves like Children to a Father.

Father. now that we are settled in the Midst of you. you will have pity on us. and if we should want Cloathing you will supply us. We shall see you upon our Lands and they will be planted with Corn & we will be hunting Deer, we shall also plant Corn, we shall want our Hoes & Other Articles mended and for that purpose we would wish to have a Blacksmith settled amongst us upon the land that we have now agreed to live upon with our Brothers.

You will remember that a few days ago. We gave you the Belt of friendship, and desired You to hold it fast, We now remind you of what we said then & hope that it will not be forgotten by either of us.

We

[illegible] speak more to you upon this [illegible]. Father this is all We have to say.

Brothers, the Indians here present.

There is a practice among you of buying and selling Prisoners. this is a thing that was never known among the Indian Nations Before. We have now made peace and become one People with the Americans. how can we expect the peace will last if we buy and sell one another like Beasts.

Brothers. this practice must be done away the Six Nations were never guilty of it

A String to the Wyandots &c

January 11th.

Brothers.

We have now settled all our business except what regards the hostages and it is now so late in the Evening we will defer that until tomorrow when you will meet me at my Quarters and we will finish it, I hope every cause of Uneasiness is removed from your minds. We have renewed the Peace & friendship that was entered into at Fort Stanwix and Fort McIntosh. and these Belts one of which I give the Six Nations and the other to the Wyandots for them and the other nations

Nation, will serve to keep you in mind of every thing that has been done here, and of what was said upon the Great Peace Belts you received at those places. One copy of the Treaty you will keep that you may have it always at hand to refer to whenever it is necessary. the other I will send on to Congress to be there preserved.

I pray to the Great God that the Peace we have Established may be perpetual. that he will be pleased to bless the good works we have been about, and to extend to your nations the glorious light of the Gospel of peace & the blessings of Civilization. that they may increase and prosper. that he will grant us to live in Unity like Brothers, and that our Children may Grow up and flourish like the Young trees, and there be none to make them afraid.

As I shall not meet you again in Council. I will now take my leave intending to return to the Grand Council of the United States, as soon as possible where I shall make a favorable report of your temper & disposition. to morrow or the day after as you chuse the goods shall be delivered.

I have also to inform you that the United States have given to the Moravian Indians the Towns upon the Muskinguns Where they formerly resided with the lands laying about them, which I shall order to be laid out for them as soon as the season will admit, and it must be said that some of your people [illegible] damages.

One matter more I have to observe is, there are several of the Nations to the Westward who are continually doing mischief to our people in the Country below. Hitherto the injuries that have been done, have been resented by the people themselves. But the United States will not sit still and see their people murdered, and if their force is drawn out against those Nations, which it certainly will be if they persist in their evil practices, they must fall. — But that is not all; the sparks will fly about and may hurt you for when the white people follow Indians who have struck them, they may fall in with others who had no hand in it, in Woods, and they cannot distinguish and so a war that neither of us wish for may be brought on. It therefore behoves you to use your best endeavours to Oblige those people to be at peace. Brothers, a Mistake that was made in sending on to me a quantity of black wampum instead of white, has prevented me from having new belts upon this Occasion. Those that I have now given to You Will Keep every thing in your minds until I can get the proper ones made and early in the spring I will send them forward to the Wyandots for all the Nations.

Brothers. I bid You farewell,

Copy of a treaty held
at Muskingum:—
January 9th. 1789

mber 13th 1788.

This day a Number of Indians arrived in ~~the~~ Neighbourhood, and
d that the Chiefs would come in and take us by the hand – about
lock they were assembled in the Council House viz. the five Nations
he Mohawks, the Senecas the Wyandots the Delawares, the Ottowas
ppewas the Pouteautamies and Sacs. The Governor attend
mmissioners of Pennsylvania, viz. Generals Butler & Gibson and
Harmar and the Officers of the Garrison and a Number of Gentlemen
d to the Council House and being seated, Duentete the Chief of the
dots rose and addressed the Governor in the name of all the N
t, to the following purpose. That they rejoiced that the G
had enabled them to come to this place to meet their Broth
d States. It gave them much Satisfaction to see them in
y manner. That their Hearts were good as they hoped ours were,
at every thing that was done at this meeting would be for mutual
which was the wish of all the Nations. That they had more to say
Brothers but as the day was now spent they would defer it until
r opportunity. For the present they would only take them by the
in token of friendship.

A String of White Wampum.

The Governor then rose and addressed them thus, Brothers, this is
ting that was desired by Yourselves. I have been waiting anxiously

for your [illegible] I am glad to see you here

you welcome [illegible] to take you by the hand.

A String of white Wam,

[illegible] another Seneca Chief who had been at Musking-

Governor [illegible] then [illegible] and spoke to them much

terms as the Governor had done, the Council fire was rake[d]

Breaking up after Tobacco had been distributed and

ordered for them.

N.B. the Cornplanter & Halftown Seneca men would not enter

here nor take any of them by the hand until the Governor

the example they also had been here for a long time.

In Council at Harmar December 13th 1788

Present as yesterday

Cornplanter

Brothers, I am thankful to the Great Spirit that has

met together again this morning and am very happy

Brothers here. The meeting held yesterday was to [illegible]

see what order the Council fire was in, and tomorrow I have

something more to say and hope the Great [illegible]

our minds are the same.

Brothers of the Thirteen United States

You will listen to your Brothers that are assemb

[illegible] Council, it is true it appears to be dark where you are and the fire does not burn clear, but now we shall clear it all that is in our power, and likewise clear the Clouds from the Heavens above that every thing may go on regular.

A String of White Wampum

Brothers,

We now make every thing clear and look up towards Heaven, see that the Clouds are driven from the Skies, It is the Great above that will shew You the way to establish friendship between us, it is not You alone that will be shewn how to make this good work We are at he will help us likewise.

a String of Black & White

Brothers of the Thirteen United States

Listen to what We are going to say, Your eyes were so full of tears that You could not see, We now wipe away all the tears from your eyes, And likewise Your throats We shall clear, And your heart We shall set it straight, And your Ears We shall open, that You may hear every thing that We shall say unto You, And that what we say may all enter into your ears without any impediment, as it is of great importance to us both.

A String of Black and White

Brothers, Listen to us now What We have to say, I will now put good wood to kindle our fire, it belongs to us all in this Island We are in, I now put on good Wood that will burn clear and will make the Young Men blow the fire, the Light of it shall shall touch the Heavens, above, and be seen by all Nations, As this fire which We now kindle will be for the

Good Road. We shall make it for all Nations that are here in this

A String of White

Brothers of the Thirteen United States,

Listen now to what they all say. We have now finished and have swept round about it for a considerable distance and have in no way [illegible] any Stones that We may come at round anything to hinder us. I shall come on one side of the fire and other.

A String of White

Brothers,

Listen to us again What We Chiefs shall say to You. We [illegible] heard of you You have a great heart, Our people have been at your heads this great while, We now wipe your heads down from the blood that remains on it. And likewise We wipe off the tears that have trickled on your body. And let the Great Spirit then [illegible] that let anything remaining between You and us.

A Belt Black and White.

Brothers, Listen again What We Chiefs of the Indian Nations are saying, the fire which was kindled up the River. And You have left the bo people there, And We likewise have left the bones of ours Who w aggressors in this mischief. It was people that had no sense.

Brothers,

We request of you to listen to what We said just now. We say [illegible] have left the bones [illegible] your people there, And We have likewise left lies there with you; As those people had no sense, We now take your bones and ours and shall bury them together, We now dig a very deep grave which reaches the Waters underneath and hereafter We shall consider all these things over and think no more of it as the Current of the Waters will wash it away.

A String of White.

Brothers, We have now buried the bones of your Relations with our own under ground very deep, We now put the earth over them and likewise strew the leaves of the trees that have fallen on the top of them, that hereafter our people may walk over it and see nothing of it that they may go and come every where about without ever thinking of it.

A Belt.

Brothers of the United States,

We hope now that You will draw back your Brethren the five Nations which have alarmed as it is not their Wishes to do any thing of the kind, We request of you to have pity on them as they are innocent of what our Brethren the five Nations have done, and what he has done is of no effect, there is no truth in any thing he has said it was his fault that You and I could not meet sooner to do the Good work We are at present about, It is our Brethren the five Nations wishes to have things contrary to our minds, It is he that puts ill in the people, You will not think it is us as it is far from our inclinations, perhaps unknown to us both if any mischief should happen to us it is the five Nations that have urged it on, it is he alone that has to land this treaty and not any One else.

String White.

Brothers of the United States Hearken to what We say now Indians that are assembled here We do not know what to think of the five Nations turning back. We cannot conceive what the meaning of it is We think strange of it— It is because he has been the reason of turning a large number of People back is the reason We think strange of it.

Brothers Listen to us Chiefs again We said that the five Nations has been the occasion of turning a number of men back from coming here. We hope you will not lay the blame to us as we are quite innocent of it. the five Nations has been always a great teaser of us. And there is nothing true that he says to us. Brethren listen to us This is what We think of the five Nations returning We think it is the Mohawk alone that is doing all this contrary work.

a Black String with little White.

Brothers,

We have now settled every thing so far, as We think is proper for the present the only request We have to make You is, if You have some of our People here, as they have suffered much, We now wish You to let them come that nothing may be in our way to begin the good Work We beg it of You in a particular manner not to refuse this request and let every thing be clear before us the reason We wish You not to refuse us this request is to let the great Spirit above so nothing would be refused that tended to set our minds at ease, and that every thing may go on regular and right to our Minds.

A large Belt

Brothers, You will still hearken to what we say. We have now finished our buſineſs with You for this day as we said before, We had a few words to say to You, We now leave to You to consider when We shall have the Good Work to begin You will appoint a day Yourself. We the Chiefs of the Wyandots are not all arrived yet and likewise our Nephews the Delawares, they are all on their Way and will be here as soon as poſsible.

December 13th

Brothers,

We Wish to inform You this Morning what We have omitted to tell You yesterday at our meeting. It is this, One of the principal Chiefs of the Mohawks named the flying Sun, One of those who returned back, has a considerable number of the Six Nations with whom We suppose he has very nearly compleated his intentions towards You, that is he must have committed hostilities somewhere about Fort Pit, We would be very happy if You sent immediately intelligence to your people, then You will know Who were the people that did this Mischief.

Brothers,

Another circumstance We have to acquaint You with, as those people just now mentioned to You with the principal Chief of the Mohawks has divided in two parties the other party will strike this place where we are at present there is the Delawares living with the Miamis and Shawanees mean to join the five nations in their bad designs and they have pointed to this very place.

Brothers,

This is our reasons in informing You with the intentions of our Brothers the five nations it is far from our inclinations it is our wishes to make peace with You that we may pass backward and forward without any danger.

December 15th

Brothers,

I have considered what You said to me yesterday and am now to give You an Answer on the part and in the name of the united States.

Brothers

You told me that You were very happy to see me here and thankful to the Great Spirit who had at length allowed us to meet at this place. I also, Brothers, give thanks to the Great God who has brought us together and am happy that we see the faces of each other in peace, It is my wish as it is yours that we may proceed upon the great business with as little loſs of time as poſsible, then our minds are the same.

A String White.

Brothers,

You say that it appears dark where I am and that the fire does not burn clear, but that You will do all in your power to remove the darkneſs and to make the fire burn bright, and will remove the Clouds that have overcast the heavens that every thing may go right.

Brothers, With this String I now help You to make every thing clear, and wish You look up towards Heaven to see that the Clouds which interrupted the light of the Sun are retiring. It is indeed the Great Spirit above that can alone shew us the way to establish a firm friendship with each other let us both go in earnest about it, and rely for aſsistance on him, and the good Work will soon be compleated.

A String White & Black

Brothers, You have wiped the tears from my eyes that I might see clear, You have scoured my throat and cleansed my heart and set it straight, You have opened my ears that every thing You may say to me may enter freely and sink into my heart, I now likewise, Brothers, wipe away the tears from your ears, I scour your throat and cleanse your heart and set it straight, and I open your ears that You may hear distinctly every thing that I shall say to You, and that it may sink deep into your hearts and make a lasting impression upon them. It is of great importance to us both.

a String Black and White.

Brothers, I kindled a fire and You have now put on good Wood to make it burn and it is a fire for all the people of this Country, I will now help You to put on more good Wood, And our Young Men and yours shall blow the fire together until the flame of it reach the Heavens, and the Nations shall see it and rejoice in it, because this fire has been made for the Good Work amongst all the people of this Land, and now that it is swept round about, and nothing left in the way to hinder us, We will sit down together, one on the one side and the other on the other side of it like friends.

a String of White.

Brothers, You say that when You left the fire that was kindled up the River, the bones of our People and of your people were left there, that the Mischief was done by people that had no sense, and that You will dig a very deep grave and bury the bones of our Relations and yours together, Brothers, what should We do with the bones but bury them.

Brothers, Now that You have buried the bones of our Relations and of yours together very deep, with this String I will help You to put the earth over them, throwing the leaves that are fallen from the trees to cover the place on the top, that hereafter We may walk there without thinking of them.

a Belt.

Brothers, I am sorry that any of the five Nations has gone back after coming so near us and taken so many men with him, because, as our Brothers had desired it I hoped to have seen them all together But Brothers this is no new thing for that Man of the five Nations He did just so at Fort Stanwix in 68 I do not blame You that are here for their going back. The evil Spirit is always at work with some one or other to prevent the Good work of peace but be strong and of a good mind and We can do well enough without them, You must have no apprehensions that any Mischief will unexpectedly fall upon You on Account of the five Nations returning. The Meeting has been long delayed but We know it was occasioned by him; and it will not be resented against You, I give You my word that You have nothing to apprehend.

A White String

Brothers, Hearken to me.

You say You think it very strange that the five Nations should have turned back and cannot make out the Meaning of it And that it is because he has been the occasion of turning back so many people that You think so strange of it. You desire me again Brothers not to blame You for it, Brothers I do not blame You for it but Brothers if You apprehend any ill from the five Nations that he may send the people he has turned back with him to do mischief You should tell me so explicitly if it is the Mohawks alone that are working thus against You. You have but little to do with the Mohawks.

A String Black and White.

Brothers,

It is True that We have some of your people tied here, and You wish me to let them loose that nothing may be in the way to hinder us from beginning the great Work.

Brothers

It is a long time ago that I sent a Message to you at the [illegible] which I have forgotten and I have not yet had an answer to it. I must have [illegible] the words I then spoke. It is not enough to come now and say it was people that had no sense who did the Mischief that occasioned their being tied, the five Nations are pointed out who it was that did it. if You did not receive the Message I sent to you at the same time, I have a copy of it here and will repeat it to you. Brothers if the United States had not sincerely wished to be at peace with You I had never sent that Message but gone to war immediately which I am ready for but the great Spirit put in my heart not to let the warriors go, it might be that the Mischief was not done with the knowledge of the Nations.

Brothers I have here the Answer of the five Nations on that subject which you may peruse if you wish it. It was sent to me in the name of all the Nation You know whether he was authorised or not.

Brothers It may be that your people are tied hard and are hurt by it Until some one can say they were tied wrong; but after that it was necessary that they should be made fast but to show you how ready I am to oblige You I will loose their feet at least which will give them some ease until You have time to consider of an Answer.

A String Black and White.

Brothers,

The information You gave me this Morning which was forgot yesterday is of very serious importance it is somewhat extraordinary it should have been forgotten measures will be taken to prevent the mischief if it is not already done.

Brothers,

You do not tell me when You got information of the flying Sun's intentions nor when he set off nor what part You will take Yourselves in case it be true. These are things I should know.

A String Black and White.

The Message to the Nations sent in July was then at their request read and interpreted to them.

Fort Harmar Decem.r 15th

In Council

Present as Yesterday

After the Governor's answer and Message Guyasutha rose and begged the Chiefs to continue upon their Seats, and likewise requested the same of the Governor.

Corn Planter Brothers of all the Nations here assembled when I arrived at this Council fire my Nephews the Delawares requested to apply for the liberty of the Prisoners it made him very sorry to see them, but yet I could not do it with propriety until You had all assembled, then would be the time.

A Black String.

The Women that was with them also requested me to speak for them still I gave the same answer and desired them not to be uneasy, as he would do every thing in his power for them he promised me he would do so.

A String.

To the Governor.

Brothers, Will You listen to me You see that the Nations are now assembled to your fire. Brother my intention is only to make peace tis long since I arrived and I will assist the Nations in that business. I return thanks for what You have done this day which pleases me.

Brothers,

tis true You have released their feet but is that all You can do, You have frequently told me We shall be as one and I consider it so and request that they may be at liberty entirely.

Brothers dont You know We have done every thing we can let others know also that it is so and let nothing hinder the good Work to go on.

Brothers.

You will consider it well and I hope You will let them out of the gates that the good Work may now go on.

A White String.

Cornplanter to the Chiefs.

I have now said all I have to say at present but I request You to keep your seats and give an Answer as soon as possible to the Governor.

Capt. Joseph a Cayuga Chief rose and addressed the Assembly.

Brothers of 15

Listen. You have heard bad News the flying Sun, I tell You he was so sick when it is said they were going to strike; he was hardly able to walk —

Then Brant insisted upon us two Chiefs to return back with him, We answered they were determined to hear what their Brother had to say at the Council fire as they could not understand Writing, for that he wrote and got answers and told them what he pleased And it was not communicated to them, He begs what has been reported may not be taken notice of as he believes it may turn out to be lies.

Leantete spoke,

Brothers the United States and all the nations assembled, I return thanks to the Great Spirit who has now permitted us to assemble at this place —

Brothers tis the Great Spirit that rules us both and governs our minds, I think more seriously of these matters than perhaps you may imagine I am determined for peace and not for War.

Then follows What Mr Williams wrote.

Brothers

You have now heard our Answer to the Speech You sent us, 'tis from all the Chiefs present at this fire. Brothers, hope You will not think light of what We say to you concerning the Great Spirit, he has equal regard for us as for You. Brothers, hope every thing We have said will settle to the bottom of your hearts.

The Governor's Reply

Brothers, You request of us to deliver all prisoners back we have; I have one circumstance to mention there is a prisoner of the name of Abraham Kuhn but as Captn Joseph Brant has prevailed upon him to return with him, as being a friend of his, We did not think worth while to tie him and bring him here to You, but if he came You was welcome to him, and if You want him yet You must send and get him.

Brothers of Thirteen U States

Now is this to be settled concerning the prisoner which was taken at our fire. Sent back the man that was taken without any difficulty, before ever we had any thing settled with us Indians, not only this one but We sent another with him by Mr. Wilson, was there any difficulty, there was not a single Word said against it, as our Wishes was to let every thing go on regular.

Brothers, You say You wish to have an answer to your Speech concerning your people that was killed and taken at the falls of Muskingum that Speech was never received, it was concealed from us You will remember when we had the Council at Fort McIntosh that You requested of me to return all your people that was with us taken prisoners did We not comply with your at that time We did let all Go, why do you ask us again You will know that with a great deal of trouble We got the prisoner back from those people that had taken him.

Brothers, If You wish to have all your people back We have not in the least any objections take them every where You see them as it is impossible for us to make them go as they are partly mixed with us.

Brothers, To convince You that far from refusing any thing you request of me We have now eight of your people in my Custody, which We have purchased from our people that is the Cherokees We hope to see every thing go on regular We intend to deliver them as soon as You think conveniently will serve We hope our request of You will not be refused as for our Brothers the Ottawas and Chippewas they have not one of your blood.

The Governor to all the Nations

Brothers, I am well satisfied with what You have now said and will consider of a Proper answer You are much mistaken if You suppose I will make light of what You say about the Great Spirit. It is upon him We all depend and I am happy to see You have so just a sense of his superintending power and providence.

Decentele to the Senecas &c.

Brothers, I am very happy to meet You at this Council fire. it is true You have came a great way down this time to do this business. I have also come a great way to complete the Good Work we meet. We hope the Great Spirit above will protect You and us to go on with this business regularly as We would wish to have it.

Capt. Joseph a Cayuga.

Brother,

'Tis very certain that the Chiefs of the Delawares and the other Nations had desired You to stop up the Road, 'tis true if it had been open it might have prevented the good Work going on by keeping back those who might have met it coming in and selling their Skins but now we wish it to look a little.

A little Spirits given to them and distributed in the Council House before they rose. The fire raked up and the Council adjourned to the next day.

Jany. 16th. The Governor in private Council with the Chiefs

He wished to know from them their private opinions as to the truth of the information they had given about the flying Sun and Brant, When they received the information and by Whom and desired them to send up some of their people who they could depend upon to look at the road from Tuscarawas to Fort Pitt. If they had gone along that road they were gone for Mischief if they were not gone along it, they should come back by the falls of Muskingum and so down here. The information was brought to them by a Wyandot Chief. It is Nine days since he left Bran

After Brant had separated from the rest he stopped at some distance and waited until the Shawanees the Delawares that came with them and the Miamis came up, they held a Council together and Brant told these people that nothing could be done with the United States that they could be satisfied with, That now they had the choice of Peace and War, which ever they determined upon would be his choice If they chose to go to war he would help them but if they were for peace he would acquiesce. that they all declared for war and then it was settled that Brant with his People should strike at Fort Pitt, and the others should strike at this place. It is their opinion there was nothing more meant by it but to prevent these people from coming here, but they are not sure of that, they thought it very right to send and see what they were about and they put it upon the pipe. He said he would send immediately again for that he had already sent and expected his people in every minute, the Governor then asked them to consider in case it should be true that they meant to strike immediately what part they would take, whether they would stay here and join the troops and the Militia or sit home and sit still, he did not desire an immediate answer but wished them to consider of it deliberately and maturely, In the Course of conversation they spoke very hard of Brant and mentioned as a reason why the assembled Nations had not given an answer to the message sent them in July, a Speech which Brant said he had received from General Harmar. He threw it into the fire as soon as he had read it and then told them it was a very bad one that the Nations in the Westward were called by this to Port St Vincennes, and he had proposed to the five Nations when these should be met there, to join the Americans and fall upon the Delawares, Wyandots and Shawanese and cut them off and the five Nations should enjoy their Country. He said every thing he could against the Americans and drawing a sword that he always carried stuck it into the Ground and told them there was a sword for them use it when they pleased against them. They appeared much satisfied that the Governor had refused to go to the falls of Muskingum, for if any thing had been offered there that he Brant thought improper to consent to it was likely that the sword would have been buried in his body. The Governor assured them of the falsity of the information about General Harmar, and promised to shew them a Copy of the Message he sent to the United Nations, and the Meeting broke up. The Message was afterwards shewn to them and they said they have been most grossly imposed upon by Brant.

No further Council this day

Fort Harmar Decemr 18th.

In Council

Deuentele

Brothers, I am very happy to meet you on this day which the Great Spirit has allowed us to assemble. You requested of me the day before yesterday to give You a positive answer as I could; whether if those people that have turned back do any Mischief I will join us or not I told You before that I had only one tongue which spoke from my heart. I beg that the Six Nations will give their Answer to the Governor first, as You partly know my sentiments already, it is only the Six Nations whose minds We do not know therefore I beg he will rise.

To the Six Nations

Brothers, Listen to me, You have heard our voice now, We Indians that are assembled at this Council fire have already told it to you, that the Six Nations are to give their answer first, as they are well acquainted with the intentions of the five Nations that have turned back therefore I think they have the best right to speak first, You have partly concealed this affair.

Brothers the Six Nations,

Be strong You know well that this business We have to do has been a long time on hands and We have yet done nothing in it We have been doing our endeavours to establish peace and friendship with our Brothers the United States of America, It is he only that this business depends upon, We wish now to let all our Brother Indians that are here assembled, likewise our Brothers the United States hear our voice, to let them know tis the Six Nations that has caused the business of settling a peace to be so backward, and is the cause of the mischief done at the Council fire; therefore We beg him to speak for himself in presence of all our Brethren. I will tell You for instance. You will remember the Council fire that you made at the Miamis River. Tis then two [illegible] next Spring from your own mouths, at the time that we [illegible] at the Miamis River it was conveyed all the way to Michilimac telling our Brothers there to be ready early in the Spring to strike the United States.

Brothers the Six Nations

Another instance of what you have done, at the same time you [illegible] your sword and stuck it in the Ground for the [illegible], desiring them to strike the United States. [illegible] to convince you that I was for peace last Spring when the grass was growing out of the ground, We made it our business to go out take the sword out of the hands of the [illegible] and told them that if they listened to the Six Nations that our Nations would fall, it is now that we wanted to make with our Brothers the United States. this is the Speech that I made to them when I took the sword out of their Hands and wished them to listen to the good Works we are making at present.

Brothers the United States,

You have heard what I said just now it was us Wyandots and our [illegible] at the [illegible] likewise our Brethren the different Nations that you [illegible] at this Council fire at that time when I took the sword out of the [illegible] hands. Brothers [illegible] listen [illegible] of the Wyandot Nation and our Brother Indians if you wish to listen to Councils it will be for the good of all our nations, [illegible]. We have kindled a fire for all Nations to meet us and We desire You to kindle another for the different Nations that live about You. And desire them to lay still and listen to the Speech We shall relate to You. it is this, Our Brothers the United States have kindled a fire for us, I am now ready to rise up and meet them at that fire they have kindled for us. it is for the good of all Nations, and that our Children may live and grow up without disturbance, And it is our wishes from our Hearts to make peace with our Brothers the United States, if the Great Spirit above will allow us to agree in the Good Works we are now going to make at this Council fire. I hope You will follow us and join to do the same as We shall.

Brothers, Listen to Us You have heard what your Brothers the Wyandots Delawares and the different Nations said to You just now. When the Six Nations arrived at our Council fire that the Wyandots Delawares and other Nations had kindled for all Nations, Nations to meet at, he just sat down and rose up immediately kindled another fire at the Miami fire. It is the Six Nations alone that has delayed this business, and it is his fault that Winter has now overtaken us.

Brothers of the United States, this is our reason for speaking in the manner we have done. When We the Wyandots were on our way to come to this Council fire, the Six Nations struck us with two Belts of Wampum on our backs, that us Wyandots should have sent to the Seven Nations of the Canawagas, And they conveyed them to the Six Nations to let them know they were their friends and that they wished not to conceal any thing from them, the Wyandots should have told the Seven Nations not to listen to the Six Nations and let every thing up the [illegible] that they [illegible] what the Six Nations has cast up to our faces. Brothers you [illegible] heard what the Indians that are [illegible] this [illegible] said to you just now I suppose you think what can be the reason that the Indians did not meet here sooner, it is true [illegible] in the Spring. Brothers I hope you will not think [illegible] it is not you alone but [illegible] long for this meeting [illegible] stretched [illegible] with [illegible] Indians coming down to meet you early in the Spring [illegible] to meet you but the Six Nations told us that they would not meet you in the Spring [illegible] I could [illegible] of his coming [illegible] that he would be up in twenty five [illegible] with her wings stretched out to the [illegible] the Six Nations on board of her, but [illegible] is the case all summer long, now we [illegible] for us Indians, and it is the [illegible] with us [illegible] Brothers, we hope you will [illegible] in these matters [illegible] would [illegible] except the Six Nations can [illegible] them on their [illegible]. This is the treatment we have both received from the Six Nations.

Brothers, this is all I have to say to you at present I hope you will urge the Six Nations to [illegible].

Joseph the Cayuga Chief, to the Wyandots.

Brothers. We have heard what you have to say and will consider it. We will not open the Council fire [illegible] to consult together about our answer until tomorrow.

Brothers the Six Nations
Assemble again

You tell me now that we must delay the business till tomorrow, we are really surprised at you to be delaying this business so long from day to day. It is not this town but it is the business we have with our Brothers the United States that you are delaying, consider the business with our Brothers the U.S. is a great business therefore we insist upon your answer early in the Morning. Your business must be great indeed that you cannot return an answer before tomorrow.

Cayuga Chief to the Nations

Brothers, Chiefs, young men and Warriors, listen to me and hear what I have to say.

Brothers you have told us that we have been delaying the business, I say it is you that have, you have been all day pointing at us in every Speech you have made. Brothers we do not mean to delay the business longer than tomorrow, we must have a little time to consider of it, we mean to tell our Sentiments tomorrow morning when we will say all we have to say to you and our Brothers the U. States.

Fort Harmar 19th Decr

In Council

Cayuga, Brothers of all the Nations that are here listen to what I say [illegible] the [illegible] Listen, Brothers 15 U States,

Indians God thanks that we have the pleasure to meet our Brothers at this Council fire this Morning. Brothers we the Six Nations [illegible] on dry good wood that our Council fire may burn clear. Brother Indians listen now to the Six Nations God is looking down upon us to see what we are doing we hope he will enable us to do all things right. Brothers Wyandots & Delawares You asked us yesterday to tell our intentions with us, relate what the [illegible] has [illegible]. We [illegible] and you will [illegible] what we mean. Brothers you seemed to point at the Six Nations [illegible] and said they brought the [illegible] and had [illegible] you [illegible]. Brothers We wish that you was [illegible] things to us yesterday that might make us [illegible] but throw [illegible] in the ground and bury it [illegible] and [illegible] to our Brothers the United States [illegible] with you and let you [illegible].

[illegible] Thing

[illegible], Brother Indians now assembled, listen to the [illegible] we met with our Brothers the 15 U States [illegible] now sitting together. Brothers I am now going to give you a reason why this [illegible] business has been delayed.

Brothers of different tongues now assembled. I feel for you all as much as for our Brothers the 13 Fires. Brothers I have often desired you to listen to me but you would not hear me. Brothers I now tell you that I am sitting with the 13 Fires, and I have got hold of him and I will keep that hold fast.

Brothers, I now hope you will listen well to me. it was me that first kindled the Council fire and when You were round it, I desired you to go with us to visit our Brothers the 13 Fires.

Brothers you will recollect When we kindled the Council fire that You were there at it as well as our Brothers the Shawanese and others.

My Young Brothers the Wyandots You know that the Six Nations invited You and the Shawanese to come up and go to the Council fire at Fort Stanwix but you would not do it but hearkened to Brant, and would not hear them. I beg of you all to listen to me now, for then I was interrupted and Brant went away. I do not know where which [illegible] confusion in the Nations.

Brothers, You are very well acquainted with what I said, and You know they sent to you to come and go to the Council fire.

You Wyandots also know that when You received my Speech You did not hearken to it but You and the Shawanese run up and went away.

I am very sorry that our Young Brothers the Shawanese will not at [illegible] first [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] it makes me [illegible] that [illegible] [illegible] must not [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the 13 [illegible].

[illegible] We [illegible] there [illegible] and our Brothers the 13 [illegible] [illegible] and remember that we made a [illegible] and from [illegible] that [illegible] pulled a hair out of the head of our Brothers 13 fires since, neither have we stolen a single hors from them.

[illegible] that the Shawanese [illegible] [illegible] the Shawanese [illegible] before they [illegible] their own names [illegible] them and [illegible] them to [illegible].

Cornplanter,

Brothers [illegible] what I [illegible] to you. You will [illegible] [illegible]. Brothers, I am [illegible] [illegible] of the fall [illegible] of [illegible].

[illegible]

Brothers,

You [illegible] 13 [illegible] [illegible] your lands. [illegible] [illegible] If [illegible] it would [illegible] hurtful to you all.

my Younger Brothers took pity on You and sent up from my Council You and went to the great Council of the 13 Fires. Brothers I am sorry which I say of your late Conduct. You took up the Tomahawk and struck towards the Sun setting.

Brothers,

2 My Brothers the 13 Fires desired me to be strong to tell You to live in peace that our Women and Children might live happy as long as the Sun should shine. Brothers when I was at the Great Council, they told me that the line was from the mouth of the Lakes to the Mississippi, and that the King of England had made that line with him. When I returned from the great Council I brought You the Copies of the treaty between our Brothers the 13 States and the Great King. You must remember that I left it with You at Fort [illegible] Council and told You that I had seen the Original with the great Seal of England and it was signed by the King of England with his own hand.

Brothers,

Listen [illegible] to me. When I returned to You at our Council fire You would not listen to me but insisted to speak first. Brothers, the Shawanese then spoke to me and said, I have now got the Tomahawk in my hand that was given me by the King of England to strike the 13 Fires. he has not taken it out of my hand and I will use it. It was then [illegible], that was the reason they would not hear me.

[illegible] You wanted I tell You that if my Person was friend of heart they

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[illegible] with terrible [illegible] I have been very [illegible] the more troubles that [illegible].

Brothers [illegible] the same [illegible] speak. You [illegible] that you would not hear me.

Brothers, All the Nations setting round you would not listen to me but listen to the Great Spirit [illegible] you [illegible] I did not [illegible] that you did not listen to him.

Brothers, [illegible] they [illegible] will not [illegible] yet?

A White Man.

Brothers [illegible] listen well to me [illegible] what you have [illegible] and the great Spirit is looking to me [illegible] me [illegible]. Yesterday if you recollect you told me [illegible] listen now to the answers [illegible].

Brothers,

You [illegible] yesterday [illegible] what you [illegible] that you [illegible] 13 [illegible] Indians [illegible] will keep you [illegible] to see me. Brothers, I now tell you that [illegible] in his [illegible] at home, and he [illegible] but will keep him there [illegible] he shall no more run about amongst the Nations disturbing them and causing trouble. Brothers do now agree to let this business go on well and that during all time. I do not wish Brant to die, let him live I pity him. Brothers, Take this String in remembrance of what the Six Nations have said.

A Black and White String

Brothers I hope now you have all heard that I have put Brant up in his room. I now give this String to you our Brothers the United States that it may not forget what I have done.

White String

Brothers the Wyandots and all other tribes here assembled listen now to me, Brothers the Wyandots you always assisted Brant in his bad conduct and was likely to be the cause of our being nearly destroyed from this Island. Brothers the Wyandots listen well to me You know that the Six Nations always had pity on You, when You was in a bad way they assisted you. Brothers I have concluded what our forefathers have said and remember it well. You must also remember it and tell it to the different nations over to the Sun setting make them civilized and retain them to good.

Brothers the Wyandots I pray to God to let your hearts be clear and that you would warn the different Nations to the West and that our Brothers the 13 Fires may be glad to see you would do so.

Brothers, We desire you send these Speeches quickly to the Nations towards the [illegible] thing that they may be prevented from doing any mischief; we pray to it quickly that our Brothers the 13 Fires may be [illegible] we wish to live peaceably with them.

Killing Black and White.

Cornplanter,

Brothers Indians I am now going to speak to our Brothers the 13 Fires.

Father listen to me. I now call you Father because there came out of your Body.

Father, I am now going to tell you when you first came into this Island. Father you know that when you came first to this Island we saw the few [illegible] protected them as you know what a great [illegible] Nations they were. Father the first your town was made at Schenectady and then they were made in [illegible] upon the [illegible] and they [illegible] all over the Seaboard. Father you have now grown so big and strong that none can injure you. Father, I hope that you look up to Heaven and return thanks to God for your greatness. Father.

Now you say that all this Land is yours, I hope you will take pity on the Native inhabitants of this country as they took pity on you when you first arrived at this Island.

Father, I know it is in your power to satisfy all these People that are here as they are dissatisfied. Listen well to what I say and I hope God will make every thing right. I hope you will consider well of the Great business. You have charge of all this land, and I hope You will satisfy the minds of all that are uneasy. Let them know the Boundary Line of your Land and they will soon acquaint all the Nations with it in order that they may be satisfied.

Cornplanter,

Let what you now do be strong that it may last as long as the Heavens shall remain. Consider well of this business, consider their Nature. You know they live by hunting.

Now I am done speaking to You about the Lands. When God first set you down upon this Island he had pity upon You and has assisted you. I know you know how to make every thing and have every thing in plenty. Brothers, I see you are well clothed. I wish You would also clothe our Brothers Indians that they may be warm at our Council, and they will be pleased. I wish what You do to be lasting that it may never grow old.

Father, This is one of our old Council Belts I now make it new, and hope you will consider well what I have said that all may be right.

Father, take the end of this Belt in your hand. You have now hold of the Belt with all the Nations and hope You will think well of it, and I shall tie us together that We cannot be separated.

A Belt

Here I have finished all I have to say, to the five Nations.

December 17th

The Chiefs in Council by themselves.

Decem^r 19th.

Brethren of all Nations now Assembled

The Answer You made to me on the 15th inst & what has now been said has given me great satisfaction. I thought it very strange that no notice was taken of the message I sent to the Nations so long ago as July. I could not think the breaches that were committed at the falls had been without their knowledge and by their directions; Now I am satisfied that it was not so and as the Speech was concealed from them, it was not possible that they should give an answer to it.

A String White.

Brothers,

You might have seen that I did not think the Nations generally were concerned in that matter, by the readiness with which I gave up One of the Men to you who was one of the Prisoners. if it had been the public Act of the Nations none of them would ever have been released. All the Nations of the World agree in punishing such flagrant breach of the public faith.

A String White.

Brothers the Wyandots

I thank You for the pains You have taken to obtain with the design to send them home and wish [illegible] hearts of the people who made them prisoners was as Yours, and the Great Spirit who knows the hearts and sees the actions of all mankind will reward You for it. It is his command that we should love one another and be kind to each other, and we are all the Work of his hands. But Brothers there is a Custom got in amongst You of one Nation making prisoners and another buying them, this custom must be put a stop to for as long as the foolish people who love mischief can sell the prisoners they take, they will continue to take them and we never shall have peace that will last.

I will think no more of the mischief that was done up the River, the Wyandots [illegible] shall [illegible] the piece and wash out every trace of it, that it may no more trouble either You or us. It was the act of foolish people who [illegible] and there are such amongst all Nations.

A White String and Black

Brothers the Wyandots.

You asked me why I said any thing to You again about giving up prisoners. Did You not deliver all You had agreeable to your engagements at Fort McIntosh.

Brothers. Take notice, What I said about prisoners was to all the Nations that are assembled at the Miamis River, You the five Nations, the Senecas, [illegible] the Delawares [illegible] to fulfil your engagements, and you [illegible] the body [illegible] M.r [illegible] there [illegible] of our people [illegible] by some of their Nations. If they [illegible] that matter might have been settled [illegible] in the Great Lake, do they not [illegible] hinder it with their [illegible] come.

String Black and White

Brothers of all the Nations present

[illegible] ready to proceed with you in the [illegible] settled [illegible] of the prisoners [illegible] that I know [illegible] with the [illegible] they must come in [illegible] people [illegible] the prisoners, they [illegible] will be delivered to you, and I will then with pleasure [illegible] what you have to say to me on the [illegible] business.

[illegible],

Brother Blue Jacket, listen to all the nations that are round this fire, concerning what I said yesterday, that happened with us Indians, I am happy to see every thing done in a proper manner this day, as the Great Spirit above has been their master to settle it in the manner they have done. We take and bury every thing that was harsh between us and will think no more of it.

Brother U.S.

We have now met here at this fire by the permission of the Great Spirit, You say in regard of the prisoners that you have in your possession that when I leave some of my men as hostages until I return the prisoners to them, then you will comply with us, after that All our business shall go on regularly. We shall take it into consideration this night and give you an answer tomorrow every thing you have said to me goes to the bottom of my heart, as I told you before We are people that wish to make peace and be in friendship with you.

A Black String —

Wyandot,

Brother U.S. You point at me Wyandot and the Ottawas in particular of having some of your people. I wish to inform you there is one part of the six nations assembled in this room who live with us, he has some of your people as well as me, We shall consult with each other on this subject, When we have consulted together We shall give an answer, it is my desire that this business that you know we have come about should be done as soon as possible.

Do,

The Chiefs of the Wyandots and the other nations sent to request that the Council might be adjourned for three days, as it was necessary for them to change their Camps the feed for their horses being exhausted, and because our principal men were not yet arrived but by that time they would be ready to speak when we returned to.

N.B.

Although [illegible] the movements of the Wyandots regarding the [illegible] [illegible] longer as he had but just arrived, and wanted a little time to refresh himself and get information of what was done.

In Council Novr 11th.

[illegible].

Brothers Listen to us the Indians that are met with you this day are supported by the great Spirit above. It is he alone that moves all.

Brothers

You told us at [illegible] [illegible] the place that you might meet all the nations.

Brothers

We are quite unacquainted with the treaty of Peace you made with our great Father the King.

Brothers

This is not the case the last war you had with the King of France. When he made peace with them it was made known to all Nations on this Island but it was not the case with this last treaty.

Brothers

At the request of us Wyandots, Ottawas, Chippewas and all ou

Brethren the Indians that are assembled, it is our request to know how you made the treaty with the king of England, We desire you would inform us now.

Brothers, our great Father of England our father has kept this affair quite secret he has kept us ignorant of it that is the reason We now ask it of you.

Brothers,

It is very hard that our father has kept this from our knowledge, it is the great Spirit alone that made us, it was unbeknown that the Father should take his Children in presence of the World.

Brothers,

Our father tells us that he never gave our Country away to the United States it was only the title that our governor [illegible] tells us that the U. States are great speakers in saying we gave away our Country to them. that is the reason We now request of you the truth of this matter.

A Belt

The treaty was read and interpreted to them, and the Boundary as it is marked upon Jeffries map published in 1783 was shown to them, Shentuta then rose and spoke as follows.

Brothers

We have all heard you now that are assembled at this Council fire. You have made known to us the treaty you made with the king. We of different Nations that are assembled at this Council fire, it was kindled for you to read it to all the nations, We have heard you now concerning that treaty. We cannot say any thing farther to day, it is to be hoped the

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Great Spirit [illegible] teach us the way how to govern and to deliver our sentiments to you to morrow. We hope that it will be for the good of us all, as [illegible] the peace and friendship [illegible] between you and us.

White String Wampum.

In Council [illegible] 29th, 1788

Seneca

Brothers [illegible] we met you here this morning and as it has pleased by the Great Spirit that we should meet this day to [illegible] we hope he will teach us how to do it.

Brothers,

We are renewing the fire with the nations that are here but we will [illegible] the 13 United States [illegible] nothing will [illegible].

White String

Brothers,

We are very glad that you informed us yesterday the circumstances [illegible] wherein you informed your Children the Six Nations of the same. We return you thanks that you have let us into the light of it.

Brothers, We told you yesterday that we would give you an answer this morning, which will be spoken in behalf of all the Nations which you see here present. We [illegible] our Brother [illegible] that is yet wanting in Council. We shall begin.

3 Strings Black and White.

Brothers,

Listen to us well what I shall say to you concerning what has happened with us since we have been in this Country, I hope you will have pity on me the Wyandots if I should be wrong in your opinion.

Brothers,

It is me that you see here standing an Indian, I want now to let you know how I came first in to this Country as I mentioned about it some time ago which I shall write to you now.

Brothers it is this when I came into this Country first the dreams that I have had has informed me that the Wyandot Nation was the first man that the great Spirit placed upon this Ground.

Brothers, next is my Nephews the Delawares that came next after me, he is my own Nephew and this was my dream. Brothers at that time I sent some of my Nephews the Delawares to the Sea Shore to the East, to look out and see when great Beasts should come into this Country.

Brothers while he was on the Watch he spied a great Beast coming upon the Waters of the sea and what should it be but the French who was our Father first; I shall only tell you a few words how we sprung [illegible] into this Country. Brothers, I sent my Nephew a Second time to the Sea Shore upon the same business as he went before, and the next thing he saw coming upon the Water was yourself Brother and you landed here in this Island and you begged the favor of my Nephew to let you remain only one Night on Shore. he replied to you that he was not Master that there was a great man where he came from who was his Uncle, that he could not give him a portion of ground until he went back to him.

Brothers my Nephew the Hurons came back with this account to me that he had seen a great Beast coming upon the Waters of the Sea and that it had landed on the shore and requested of me to let him remain one night. I sent him back immediately and on his way home he met with the Six Nations who asked my Nephew who he was & he answered that he was the Nephew of the Wyandots who was the great man of this country. He then says (the Six Nations) why do you call the Wyandots my Uncle. Brothers. I permitted you to remain one night as you had requested of me and after this you begged of me to let you have a little ground to make your fires upon as you said you would visit me very often and the quantity of land you wanted was as much as one Cow hide could cover.

Brothers my Nephew then agreed with you for as much Land as one Cowhide would cover and you gave him a little of your strong liquor which made him a little giddy and foolish, and in the mean time you cut the Cowhide into a string that covered a considerable quantity of ground and that is the way you first got a footing for a piece of Land in this country. Brothers after my Nephew came to his senses and saw what you had done to him he came to you. You have cheated me for ever, is this the way You are going to treat me always while You remain in this Country. You replied then No Brother, far from it. I do not mean to treat You in that manner, but still You had another request to make of him, that was an addition of more land to what You had already got, as You would go no distance out to hunt but only round the fences not only this but You had a great many people to take care of and that place was too small. Brother, My Nephew complied with your request for a quantity of Land that was as far as a Man could go in a day and back again and You had one of the swiftest runners out of Europe sent for this business for You to our Surprise When we came to measure we could scarcely get to where he turned in a day, and that was the way You got the Land possibly then as the runners [illegible]. Brother here is the second that you made of me in way of a request. I told You that this would always be the case if You sat down beside me, he immediately came to me [illegible] who was the greatest man known in the Country among us Indians and I told him not to give any more Land, after this let us see what he will do to us if We refuse him a third request this is the finishing of the dream. I am but a foolish Man that You see here standing.

A Belt White

Brother You have now heard my dream, now examining the Lands that You have got given and how You deceive us for this way Jeannet hill, as [illegible] it [illegible] have no belts which come from you it is your [illegible] of the Belts which [illegible] sent to you. [illegible] to connect with [illegible] duty at present. Brothers I shall only tell you [illegible] on two Belts I have no occasion to tell you all as it came from you[r] [illegible] mouth [illegible] that nothing would [illegible] them from [illegible]. Brothers this is what you said to me [illegible] in this Country. You gave me this Belt [illegible] that [illegible] should here after [illegible] that I might have this to show you, and you [illegible] to me. Brothers [illegible] Belt [illegible] when it was given [illegible]. Brothers there is another Belt which [illegible] just a young Man [illegible]. Brothers the [illegible] friend you had with the French [illegible] with them [illegible] the Several Chiefs [illegible]. Brothers you told me it was very hard [illegible] that you are made [illegible]. Brothers, my you, the [illegible] is now stopped [illegible] come with [illegible] if you [illegible] it [illegible] if you [illegible] you will be all together. Brothers You hear the road is stopped up between us. I told You last nothing should ever part our hands asunder without cutting our arms off, and then we shall take hold with the other. Brothers, this was the same one when you conquered with our Father the English. You turned us not to be taken, as we would be set together by our Father and this is all I have to say upon this subject. I beg with you to see this once more what you said to us as you said last time nothing should part our hands as you would join them with a chain of Iron.

Two Belts.

Brothers,

Listen well to what I shall say to you upon this Land which belongs to us Indians as you call us. We are a poor [illegible] people. We do not know how to [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] which we [illegible] by what has happened in former days [illegible] this is a Belt which the Six Nations [illegible] joined us together with his Brother the Britain.

Brothers. At the time [illegible] this Belt my Father and the Six Nations [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] settled affairs concerning this Country and told me [illegible] of the Country and at the same time desired me to take care of this Country and live in peace with One Another. You said then here on the south side of Ohio is a tract of Land which I have bought from the Six Nations and this is the way that the Division was made.

Brothers It is the request of all the Nations here present to you to have compassion on them and think how hard it would be for them to lose the remaining part of our Country [illegible] the [illegible] the [illegible] any time as it was [illegible] upon before. [illegible] people. Brothers [illegible] of you all your Nations [illegible] with you [illegible] made to you [illegible] the [illegible] the year [illegible] without any [illegible].

Brothers [illegible] between [illegible] to settle with [illegible] that side of the [illegible] the British and [illegible] Brothers [illegible] happy to hear you [illegible] that [illegible] as long as [illegible]. Brothers [illegible] we have been living [illegible] to the great Spirit [illegible] that he may [illegible] the [illegible] that you [illegible] that [illegible] them [illegible] up and [illegible] and [illegible] upon [illegible] Belt [illegible] wish you to [illegible] times [illegible] of white [illegible] that you [illegible] Belt.

[illegible] Belt.

Assembled us,

Brothers, We have now gone thro' this day with our business which the Great Spirit has been pleased to allow us to meet upon this Morning. We hope now that he will pass us thro' this night that we may all rise tomorrow Morning with ease as it is him alone that we look to for assistance. You told us just now that we must meet early tomorrow morning. We request of You to give us a glass of water that we may come together chearfully in the Morning.

A Speech delivered by the Wyandots, Delawares, Ottawas, Chippewas, Pottawatamies and Six Nations. Fort Harmar 8th Jan.y 1789.

Brothers,

We are very happy to meet you here this morning as the Great Spirit above has appointed for us. We told you yesterday that we would meet you this day and we have now met, therefore we must give thanks to the Great God above. Brothers, You will recollect what you said to us a few days ago, You told us that We had settled every thing here and [illegible] at our first [illegible] the time [illegible] that We had met [illegible] We then came upon the business of the Treaty that was made at Fort McIntosh. You told us to consider well upon that treaty.

Brothers. As to what you said to us first, We told you that in four days we would be ready to let you have an answer. the reason we did not come so soon as we proposed is that the Chiefs had not all arrived that was the cause of detaining this business. Brothers You told us when we assembled the second time us Nations that you see now are present You told us a second time that We that it [illegible] what was done at the treaty [illegible] Mr [illegible] said was [illegible] just [illegible] to us both. You are [illegible] all you Indians that are [illegible] take it into your [illegible] consideration.

[illegible] United States

Listen well to what We shall say to You sometime ago there was a [illegible] sent to you requesting of you to meet us once more that it was the desire of all Nations of Indians to have another Council fire and you have complied with our request As the great Spirit has allowed you to agree with us [illegible] that has shewn you the right way to go about this business [illegible] that before we sent our message, you wanted to [illegible] at that time [illegible] nations. [illegible] You have told us to consider well [illegible] it is now going on three years that [illegible] and We don't understand You, now You come to [illegible] this land [illegible] rather [illegible] none of us know any thing [illegible] We cannot find out when it was that We should have given our lands to our [illegible] you request us to consider well, We have accordingly done so. [illegible] We wish to acquaint You that there was but two nations [illegible] which were the [illegible] and Delawares to [illegible] hear what our Brothers had to say As for other Nations that [illegible] these two nations they were not sent but were out hunting at the time. Brothers Listen well to us We are now come to settle all business that is still undone in answer to what You say about the treaty held at McIntosh We know that every thing was settled at that time according to your Wishes We are desirous to know how our Father came by the Land for when the great Spirit made the Land it was for the Indians and not for the White people.

Brothers We are very sorry that you did not make enquiry amongst us Indians before you entered into that business to know whether We had given the right of the Land to our Father as you may well know that this Country did belong to us Indians if you had done this at first all this trouble would have been saved and to our satisfaction.

Brothers Listen well to us Indians that are assembled here this day You must not think that what we say is from us only that are here, it is from all the nations upon this Island, As you have kindled this fire for that purpose you requested us to come which we did not do at McIntosh, We now wish to let you know We are a people that cannot read and write, and We shall explain it to you by Words: here is Muskingum up to Tuscarawas and across to the carrying place coming to the heads of Cayaga, and down that river till it empties into Lake Erie, here is the Ohio, up this River till it comes to the forks of Allegany River to the French Creek from that to the Lake Erie again, then along the Lake to the mouth of Cayaga; Now Brothers here is a large tract of Land that We shall give to You gratis [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] as you please to make of it What we [illegible] [illegible] properly when you are [illegible] acquainted with the [illegible] [illegible] Indians and the [illegible] right to do with it as [illegible] you know this to be all true.

Bell.

Brothers, Listen to [illegible] Indians that are here assembled you know as to [illegible] [illegible] McIntosh [illegible] [illegible] was [illegible] by the general [illegible] [illegible] what we have done as [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] wishes that we should [illegible] [illegible] We hope you will take the business into serious consideration [illegible] remembered.

Brothers, We hope you will take into consideration as we have already [illegible] [illegible] we have [illegible] told you we will [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] than [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] from the [illegible] to the mouth there, We think [illegible] [illegible] this is the boundaries of the [illegible] [illegible] but it is very small. [illegible] what we have said to you just now if you wish it [illegible] with us. Brothers we [illegible] explained to you [illegible] We hope that you will think seriously of it [illegible] [illegible] we wish to live in peace and friendship with you [illegible] [illegible] you to be strong and [illegible] will

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situation You must know that We cannot live in peace if You do not think seriously of it, [illegible] of the Generations that are to come how they will praise us if We do this Work completely and see that We thought of them as well as ourselves and if We can agree peace and friendship shall be established between us.

a Belt

Brothers, this is a day that the Great Spirit has appointed for us to speak and from our sincere hearts to You We wish not to deceive him, as We had promised that We would be ruled by him alone and You likewise did the same. As it is our desire to have peace and friendship with You as long as the World shall stand, if We should do otherwise We should go contrary to his will. Our desire Brothers and yours will be what we contract. It will be for the benefit of our Women and Children at present, as well as those who are to come, if We can complete this business according to our wishes, the great Spirit hears what We are saying and You must consider that he will be much offended in case of the contrary.

A White String.

Brothers, You told us the other day in Council that we should be under the necessity of leaving a few of our people here as hostages until We should deliver you every white one that was amongst us, You told us that if We consented to this You would let all our people who are now tied and suffering

[illegible] very [illegible] with. Brothers this [illegible] not [illegible] to
[illegible] to have [illegible] and [illegible] to it you will find it
[illegible] you [illegible] upon what we have said to you just now. Brothers,
[illegible] all that we have to say to you. We [illegible]
[illegible] we shall [illegible] to the Great Spirit that
nothing [illegible] been [illegible]
[illegible] that it may always be the case. You have now
[illegible] the sentiments [illegible] it is [illegible] that has been [illegible] said.
[illegible] you [illegible] without [illegible]. Hope
you will [illegible] all them [illegible].

[illegible] you [illegible].

[illegible] all you have said the proposal you
[illegible] the [illegible] which was [illegible] which
[illegible] about the
[illegible] about it. [illegible]
you [illegible] you have [illegible].
[illegible].

Sir. [illegible] you are not able to attend Council.

January 16th.

Brothers, I am glad to see you all assembled here this morning and
[illegible] that I am unable to meet you.
Brothers, [illegible] what you said to me two days ago I have to

observe to you that I did not expect to have heard that proposal of giving certain Lands to the United States Gratis renewed as I had given so full an Answer to it when it was sent forward from Licking Creek and told you expressly that it could not be admitted. truly if this is what we have been waiting for our time has been spent to very little purpose.

Brothers You say I have desired you to think well of what was done at Fort McIntosh and that You have been considering of it; but cannot understand how they came to get this Land from the King of England, as none of You know any thing about it nor when it was that your Lands were given to him. Brothers I did desire you to consider well what was done at Fort McIntosh, because it was there that a Boundary was first established between the Wyandots, Delawares and other Western nations and the United States. All the Boundaries that were made between the Indian Nations and the English people in America before that were made with the King of England, whose subjects they then were. The treaties were called by his orders and held by his officers. If you were cheated at them as you insinuate, it was by them you were cheated not by the American people, who were not allowed to have any thing to do with Indian affairs at all.

Brothers, A few days ago I shewed you the treaty with the King of England by which the Country was given up to the United States. I shewed you a Map published in England since that treaty by the

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Kings were all permitted when the lines were all marked agreeably to the treaty with us the River should be your [illegible] from Licking Creek I will [illegible] to explain it to you how he has a right to do as he did with you [illegible] you say you cannot understand it I will endeavour to explain it to you in another manner, Suppose that a War was likely to happen between the Wyandots and some other great Nation, and the Shawanese would be of no use to either party, but the Wyandots trusting to the feelings of their own and their own strength are unwilling to involve any body else in their quarrel they send to the Shawanese and tell them what is likely to happen and that it may perhaps go hard with them but may be [illegible] be in the Shawanese to [illegible] them, because should ones other Nation get the better the Shawanese would have nothing to do with the quarrel [illegible] the Shawanese [illegible] to sit still and [illegible] neither party [illegible] for all that they [illegible] that other Nation. The war goes on a long time with various success but at last the Wyandots get the better and that other Nation begs for Peace and gives as a Condition all the lands of their Confederates the Shawanese and a peace is accordingly made. Do you not think the Wyandots would get a very good right to that land. it is true the Shawanese are still in possession and may refuse to give it up, but as the Wyandots are now at peace with all

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the world there will be very little difficulty in drawing them off from it tho' it may cost them some Men. In that situation the Wyandots send to the Shawanees and tell them they have made peace with that other Nation Who have not only left them the Shawanees, to shift for themselves, but have given them their Country. But that unwilling to add to their misfortunes they now have been a means in recovering a part of their Country to make amends for the injuries they did them by joining their Enemies. Do you not think the Wyandots would in this case be very kind and generous to the Shawanees and that the Boundary agreed to between them on that condition ought to stand and that the Shawanees would act very unjustly and ungratefully if they should come sometime afterwards and say they were dissatisfied with it, And that, that other Nation had no right to give away their lands. Yes I know you would think so and would laugh at them, Just so it was with the British and you my Brothers. Contrary to your solemn engagements you joined them in the War against Us and did us much harm, after a long struggle We got the better. They sued for peace and your lands given us as part of the price. The United States would have been justified to all the World to have marched their Armies into your Country and punished you in an exemplary manner, but they

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[illegible] to give an example of clemency. They [illegible] that the [illegible] you

[illegible] to present the opening

[illegible] upon the condition of [illegible] a part of

your country. You accepted upon that condition and a Boundary was

established between you and them at the [illegible] that

McIntosh and the Miamies [illegible]. [illegible] you to

[illegible] upon what was done at that General treaties. If there were

[illegible] they were then,

for the United States not [illegible]. The remembrance of past injuries

[illegible] of the said treaty, [illegible]

[illegible] as they allowed you

to [illegible] upon you that [illegible] to you.

[illegible] of you had not

[illegible] they

[illegible]. [illegible] you

[illegible] not [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] is the [illegible] of

[illegible] the [illegible].

Brothers, You say there are but two Nations appointed to [illegible] the Delawares and Wyandots and that the others fell in by accident." Brothers, how are we to know who comes by accident or who by appointment. If You admit them into Council and Speak in their Names must we not conclude that they are all by appointment. Besides the Wyandots and Delawares there were at McIntosh, Munsies Chippewas Ottawas and Shawanees, and the Half King declared he spoke in the name of all the nations present.

Brothers. The United States ask no Lands of the Indian nations gratis. When they want lands and the nations are willing to sell, they will buy from them at an agreed price they scorn equally to tell them falsehoods or to cheat them. But You are mistaken even about the Lands You offer. From the mouth of Little Beaver Creek up to the Lake, and from thence east to the Line of Newyork and then South to the River which comes to the mouth or near it of Connewango and so down to Little Beaver was sold to the State of Pennsylvania at McIntosh and paid for by them and at the time which you you alone mention and the nations delivered the next Summer at the mouth of the Miami as Capt. Pipe now sitting well knows.

Brothers I have repeatedly told You it is the wish of the United States to live in Peace with all the World. I have told You likewise that if You will have War You may have War; but that You may be convinced I am in earnest in my desires for Peace, if You will renew and confirm be the boundary established at Fort McIntosh and there shall be ceded in the Treaty, as I imagine you have a right to insist on it, which was before agreed between the Commissioners and you but not made in behalf of. That as for the Consideration I will add a Quantity of goods the value of which shall be agreed upon between us. We have now spent a great deal of time about this affair. I shall expect your Answer tomorrow, and will have the writings prepared.

January the 29

Seneca

Brother, Listen to what we Indians that are assembled shall say to you this day. It is the Great Spirit that has appointed for us. We have seen you here this day with great pleasure. Brother, We are thinking here on what you explained, your sentiments to us Indians and we are now assembled to give you our answer. Brother, I shall now give an answer to what you said yesterday in behalf of my Nation to answer the whole. There are only six nations from our Quarter that are assembled here, but they are the whole that have to answer for it, friend.

Brother, I have heard the contents of all the business you gave upon concerning the lands and I have taken it to the bottom of my heart. Brother, the comparison You made with respect to the War the Wyandots had with a powerful Nation of Indians was a true one for it was once the case.

Brother,

It is very true that the Lands were once in the possession of us Wyandots and there was several that at that time had no Lands and We gave them Land to set down upon. Brothers, the comparison You made yesterday is all very right and You are not unacquainted with it therefore We hope You will take pity upon us Indians and follow the same rule.

Brothers,

We should be very happy if You could remove a little upon this side the Line and leave us a small proportion of Land as You know that We Indians are a poor helpless set of people. Brothers, You mentioned to us yesterday that if We wish to have war We should have it, but that is far from our wish. We do not desire anything of that kind in this World. As it is much against the will of our God. We are sorry that You mentioned it as We came here for peace and to establish friendship with You.

Brothers

We do not wish to speak of war with You as We did not come here to mention it with You. We came here only to settle all complaints that were made concerning the Lands and We hope this affair is now finished. Believe me Brothers I shall never come again as long as this World shall dent to on this business. Brother I told you just now that I would now speak again upon the same business we are now about. I hope that you will comply with our request of turning your line a little way. You likewise told us that you would put the agreement for our hunting in your articles We hope you will do so, that our young men may hunt with safety.

A Black and White String.

Brother We have a few Words now to speak with You, that is us Wyandots and our Nephews the Delawares and likewise the rest of our Brethren which now contains seven different nations with the Six Nations We hope now the business is compleated and finished, and peace will ensue. We wish to speak a few words with You concerning trade.

Brother, You have promised to us Indians that if the good business could be finished in a proper manner according to your wishes, that You would assist us to get Goods cheaper than what they are, and if You do this, Your Brothers will thank you very kindly for it.

Brother it is this we would wish You to do. Your people in general are very fond of Raccoons, We would be very happy if You would take two Raccoons for One Buck, Another thing I have to mention to You, It is the common custom to take a Buckskin for a Buck, but there is one evil attends it, that is if the Buck has not ears to it they will not take it for a Buck. We suppose from this that the coons are of great value.

A White String.

This is all the Indians have to say to You, You may include us all, the Six different Nations.

There are two things I forgot to mention, that is, that a Bear skin should be equal to two Bucks, and I would wish that a Blacksmith should be established here to repair our Rifles, Tomahawks, and other Utensils Gratis.

8th & 9th, employed in preparing the treaties, 10th, Got thro' the signing with the Wyandots, Delawares, Chippewas, Ottawas, Potowatamies and Sacs in part. 11th, finished the signing with them and the Six Nations and exchanged the papers, and the Six Nations gave up two prisoners those whom the Wyandots had mentioned.

The Corn Planter

Father

All Nations of Indians desired this Council fire to be kindled, and we would wish that it may terminate well.

I now tell You that what is now done at this Council fire has been done strong. We will hold it so and keep firm to the just business.

Our hands are now firmly closed with Yours and whatever strikes at the one to shed Blood will be felt by both, if any person has an intention to do

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you do so. You must tell us of that Time, to warn, to guard of any bad or wicked designs. Whenever you see or hear any thing of this kind you will tell us of it at once, ready to assist You in time.

Father,

The reason that I entered into the War before was that I was decoyed into it by the King of England, it was not by my own desire it was for want of knowing how things were. I now hope that is over and that you will tell me when any thing of that kind is like to happen again.

We will if we settled here together with you and some people that if any thing should be going to happen with either the one or the other, We may consult together and act accordingly.

Do not deceive us if you think We are like to fall tell us plainly and then We shall know what to do.

We now the Six Nations acquaint You that our Opinion is, We are one people and We will live as men and unite ourselves like Children to a father. Father now that we are settled in the midst of You, you will have pity on us and if We should want Clothing you will supply us. We shall see You upon our Lands and they will be planted with Corn and We will be hunting Deer. We shall scarce plant Corn. We shall want our Axes and other utensils mended and for that purpose We would wish to have a Blacksmith settled amongst us upon the Land that We have now agreed to live with our Brethren upon.

You will remember that a few days ago We gave You the Belt of Friendship and bound You to hold it fast.— We now remind You of what We said then and hope that it will not be forgotten by either of us. We then told you that We would speak no more to You upon Wampum. Father this is all We have to say.

Brothers the Indians here present,

There is a practice among You of buying and selling prisoners. this is a thing that was never known among the Indian Nations before; We have now made peace and are become one people with the Americans. how can We expect the peace will last if We buy and sell one another like Beasts. Brothers this practice must be done away, the Six Nations were never guilty of it.

A String to the Wyandots &c

Jany 11th

Brothers, We have now settled all our business except what regards the hostages, and it is now so late in the evening We will defer that until tomorrow when You will meet me at my quarters and finish it. I hope every cause of uneasiness is removed from our minds. We have renewed the peace and friendship that was entered into at Fort Stanwix and Fort McIntosh, and these Belts one of which I give to the Six Nations and the other to the Wyandots for them and the other Nations with you to keep you in mind of every thing that has been done here and of what was said upon the great peace Belts you received at these places. One Copy of the treaty you will keep, that you may have it always at hand to refer to whenever it is necessary, the other I will send on to Congress to be there preserved. — I fervently pray to the great God that the peace we have established may be perpetual that he will be pleased to bless the good Work we have been about, and to extend to your Nations the glorious light of the Gospel of peace and the blessings of civilization, that they may increase and prosper, that he will grant us to live in unity like Brothers and that our Children may grow up and flourish like the young trees, and there may be none to make them afraid.

As I shall not meet you again in Council I will now take my leave intending to return to the grand Council of the United States as soon as possible where I shall make a favorable report of your temper and disposition: [illegible] at the [illegible] the goods shall be delivered.

I have also to inform you that the United States have given to the Moravian Indians the lands upon the Muskingum where they formerly lived with the Lands lying about them which I shall cause to be laid out for them as soon as the season will permit, and I should be glad that some my people would attend the Surveyors.

One matter more I have to observe to you. There are several of the Nations Westward who are continually doing mischief to our people in the Country below. Hitherto the injuries that have been done have been felt by the people themselves. But the United States will not sit still and see their people murdered and if their force is drawn out against those Nations which it certainly will be if they persist in their evil practices, they must fall. But that is not all, the sparks will fly about and may hurt you for when the White people follow Indians who have struck they may fall in with others in Woods who had no hand in it, and cannot distinguish, and so a War that neither of us wish for may befall us; I therefore beseech you to use your best endeavours to oblige them to be at peace.

The mistake that was made in sending on to me a quantity of black Wampum for white has prevented me from having new Belts made up upon occasion. Those that I have now given to you will keep every thing in order until I can get the proper ones made, and early in the Spring send them forward to the Agents for all the Nations.

I bid you farewell.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] and the Indians.

[illegible] Copy from the Original papers.

Copy of the Proceedings between a part of the Six Nations Indians and part of the Western Confederate Indians and Governor St Clair at Fort Harmer on the Muskingum Prior to the treaty made at that place on the 9th of January 1789.

Saturday December 13th 1788

This day a Number of Indians arrived in the neighbourhood and sent word that the Chiefs would come in and take us by the Hand. About three OClock they were assembled in the Council house Viz.) the five Nations (except the Mohawks) the Senecas, the Wyandots, the Delawares, the Ottiwas, the Chippewas, the Potowatomies and Sacs; the Governor attended by the Commissioners of Pensylvania Viz Generals Butler & Gibson, and General Harmer, and the Officer of the Garrison and a Number of Gentlemen proceeded to the Council house and being Seated, Deuentete the Chief of the Wyandots, rose and addressed the Governor in the Name of all the Nations present, to the following purpose.

That they rejoiced that the Great Spirit had enabled them to come to this place to meet their Brothers the United States. It gave them much Satisfaction to see them in a friendly manner, that their hearts were good as they hoped ours were, and that every thing that was done at this Meeting would be for mutual benefit which was the wish of all the Nations. That they had more to say to their Brothers but as the day was near spent they would defer it untill another Opportunity. for the present they would only take them by the Hand in token of friendship. —

A String of Wampum —

The Governor rose and addreſsed them thus

Brothers, this is a Meeting that was desired by Yourselves I have been waiting anxiously for your coming a very long time. I am glad to see you now. I heartily bid you welcome and take you by the hand.

A String of White Wampum

Cayasultha a Seneca Chief who had been at Muskingum since the Governor came down, then rose and spoke to them much in the same terms as the Governor had done, the Council fire was raked up and the meeting was broke up after Tobacco had been distributed and provisions Ordered for them.

Note the Cornplanters &half town Seneca Men would not enter the Council house nor take any of them by the hand untill the Governor had set them the Example They also had been here for a long time. —

In Council Fort Harmar Decr. 14th. 1788.

Present as Yesterday.

Peuentete rose.

Brothers, I am thankfull to the Great Spirit that has allowed us to meet together again this morning, and am very happy to meet our Brothers here. The Meeting held yesterday was to salute them, and to see what order the Council fire was in, And to morrow I must have something more to say, and hope the Great Business will go on, and that our minds are the same, Brothers of the thirteen United States

You will listen to your Brothers that are assembled at this present Council. it is true it appears to be dark where you are at present and the fire does not burn Clear. but now we shall clear it all that is in our power. and likewise clear the Clouds from the Heavens above that every thing may go on regular –

A String of white Wampum –

Brothers,

We now make every thing clear and look up towards Heaven, see that the clouds are driven from the Sky. it is the Great Spirit above that will show You the way to Establish friendship between us it is not you alone that will be shewn how to make this good work, we are at, he will help us likewise – – – – A String of Black Wampum.

Brothers of the thirteen United States

Listen to what we are going to say. your Eyes were so full of tears that you could not see, We now wipe away all the tears from your Eyes. And likewise your throats we shall clear, and your heart we shall set it Straight. & Your Ears we shall open. that you may hear every thing that we shall say unto you. and that what we say may all enter into your Ears without any impediment. as it is of great importance to us Both.

A String of Black & White

Brothers

Listen to us now what we have to say I will now put good Word to kindle our fire. it belongs to us all in this Island We are in. I now put on good wood that will Burn clear, and will make the Young men blow the fire, the light of it Shall touch the Heavens above and be seen by all Nations As this fire which we now kindle will be for the Good Work, We shall make it for all Nations that are here in this Island ——

A String of White

Brothers of the Thirteen United States.

Listen now to what they all say. we have now finished the fire and have swept round it for a Considerable distance, and have left nothing in our way. no not even a Straw. that we may come and set round it without any thing to hinder us. I shall come on one side of the fire & You on the Other.

A String of White

Brothers,

Listen to us again, what we Chiefs shall say to You, We are looking towards You. You have a great head of hair Our people have been plucking at your heads this great while, We now wipe your head down and take away the Blood, the Blood that remained on it, and likewise we wipe off the drops of Blood that have dropped on your Body — and let the great Spirit above teach you and us only Good things Hereafter. And let every thing remain in friendship between you and us.

A Belt Black & White

Brothers,

Listen again to what we Chiefs of the Indian Natio are Saying. We left the fire which was kindled up the River and you have left the Bones of your people there, & we likewise have left the Bones of ours; Who was the agreſsor in this Mischief? it was people that had no Sense. —

Brothers. We request of you to listen to what we said Just now. We say, that you have left the Bones of your people there. and we have likewise left the Bones of ours there with Yours, as these people had no Sense, We now take your bones and ours and Shall bury them together, We now dig a very deep grave which reaches the Waters Underneath. and hereafter we shall consider all these things over and think no more of it. as the Current of the Waters will wash it away.

A String of White

Brothers,

We have now buried the Bones of your relations with our own under ground very deep. We now put the Earth over them & likewise strew the leaves of the trees that have fallen, on the top of them, that hereafter our people may walk over it, and see Nothing of it that they may go and come every where about without ever thinking of it.

A Belt.

Brothers, of the United States.

We hope now that You will draw back your Brethren, the five Nations which have returned, as it is not their wishes to do any thing of the kind. We request of you to have pity on them as they are innocent of what our Brethren the five Nations have done, and what he has done is of no Effect. there is no truth in any thing he has said it was his fault that you and I could not meet Sooner. to do the good work, we are at present about

It is our Brethren the five Nations wishes to have things Contrary to our Minds. It is he that puts ill in the people You will not think it is us. as it is far from our inclination Perhaps unknown to us both if any mischief should happen to us it is the five Nations that have urged it on it is he alone that has declared this Treaty. and not any one else.

String of White —

Brothers of the United States

Hearken to what we say now Indians that are assembled here. We do not Know what to think of the Five Nations turning back, we cannot conceive what the meaning of it is We think Strange of it. It is because he has been the Occasion of turning a large number of People back is the reason we think Strange of it.

Brothers,

Listen to us Chiefs again. We said that the Five Nations has been the Occasion of turning a Number of men back, from coming here. We hope you will not lay the Blame to us. as we are quite innocent of it, the five Nations has been always a great deceiver of ours. and there is nothing true that he says to us, Brethren, this is what we think of the five Nations returning, We think it is the Mohawk alone that is doing all this Contrary Work.

A Black String with little white

Brothers,

We have now settled every thing as far as we think is proper for the present, the only request we have to make is if you have some of our people tied as they have suffered much, we now wish you to let them loose, that nothing may be in our way to begin the good work, we beg it of you in a particular manner not to refuse this request, and let every thing be Clear before us, the reason we wish you not to refuse us this request, is, to let the Great Spirit above, see nothing would be refused that tendend to set our minds at ease and that every thing may go on Regular & Right to our Minds.

A large Belt.

Brothers,

You will still hearken to what we say, we have now finished our busineſs with you for this day, as we said before we had a few words to say to you, we now leave to you to consider when we shall have the good work to begin You will appoint a day yourself. We the Chiefs of the Wyandots are not all arrived yet, and likewise our Nephews the Delawares, they are all on their way and will be here as soon as Poſsible.

December 14th.

Brothers:

We wish to inform you this Morning what we have omitted to tell you Yesterday at our Meeting. It is this one of the Principle Chiefs of the Mohawks, named the flying sun, one of those who returned back, has a Considerable number of the Six Nations, with whom we suppose he has very nearly compleated his Intentions towards You, that is he must have Committed Hostillities some where about Fort Pitt, we Should be very happy if you Send immediatly

Intelligence to Your people then you will know who were the people that did this Mischief. —

Brothers,

Another circumstance we have to acquaint you with as these people just now mentioned to you with the principle Chief of the Mohawks, has divided in two parties the Other will Strike this place where we are at present There is the Delawares living with the Miamis & Shawanese wish to join the five Nations in their bad designs and they have pointed at this Very place.

Brothers,

This is our reasons for informing you with the intentions of our Brothers the five Nations it is far from our inclinations, it is our wishes to make peace with You that we may paſs backwards & forward without any Anger. —

December 15th. —

Brothers,

I have considered what you Said to me Yesterday and am now to give you an answer in the name and on the part of the United States.

Brothers,

You told me that you were very happy to meet me here, and thankful to the Great Spirit who had at length allowed us to meet at this place. I also Brothers give thanks to the Great God who ha brought us together and am happy that we see the faces of Each other in Peace. it is my wish as it is Yours. that we may proceed upon the great buſineſs with as little loſs of time as poſsible, there our minds are the Same.

A String White

Brothers,

You say that it appears dark where I am and that the fire does not burn clear, but that you will do all in your power to remove the darkneſs and to make the fire burn Clear and will remove the clouds that have overcast the Heavens, that every thing may go right. —

Brothers,

With this String I now help you to make every thing Clear. and wish you to look up towards Heaven to see that the Clouds which intercepted the light of the Sun are retiring. It is indeed the Great Spirit above that Can alone shew us the way to establish a firm friendship, with each other. Let us both go in earnest about it. and rely for Aſsistance on him. and the good work will Soon be Compleated. —

A String White & Black

Brothers,

You have wiped the tears from my Eyes that I might see Clear, you have scoured my throat and Cleansed my heart and set it Straight. You have opened my ears that every thing you say to me may enter freely, and Sink into my heart. I now likewise Brothers, wipe away the tears from your Eyes. I scour your throat and Cleanse your heart & set it Straight and I open your Ears that you may hear distinctly every thing that I shall say to you, and that it may sink deep into your hearts and make a lasting impression upon them. It is of Great importance to us Both.

A String Black & White

Brothers,

I kindled a fire and you put on good Wood to make it burn, and it is a fire for all the people of this Country. I will now help to put on more good Wood and our Young men and yours shall blow the fire together untill the Flame of it reach the Heavens and the Nations shall see it and rejoice in it, because this fire has been made for the Good work amongst all the people of this land. and now that it is swept round about and Nothing left in the way to hinder it. We will sit down together, One on the one side and the Other on the other side of it like friends. —

A String of White

Brothers,

You say that when you left the fire that was kindled up the river the Bones of our people & of your people were left there. that the mischief was done by People that had no sense. & that you will dig a very deep Grave, and bury the bones of our relations and Yours together Brothers— what Should we do with the bones but bury them?

Brothers,

Now that you've buried the bones of our relations & yours together very deep. with this String I will help you to put the Earth over them likewise the leaves that are fallen from the trees to cover the place on the top, that hereafter, we may walk there without thinking of them. A Belt. —

Brothers,

I am Sorry that any of the five Nations has gone back after Coming so near us, and taken so many men with him, because, as our Brothers had desired it I hoped to have seen them all together, But Brothers this is no new thing for that man of the Five Nations. He did just so at Fort Stanwix in 82. I do not blame you that are here for their going back. The Evil Spirit is always at work with some one or other to prevent the good work of Peace, but be Strong and of a good mind and we can do well enough without them. You need have no apprehensions — that any mischief will unexpectedly fall upon you on Account of the five Nations returning. The meeting has been long delayed, but we know it was occasioned by him, and it will not be resented against you I give you my word that you have Nothing to apprehend... A White String

Brothers, hearken to me,

You say you think it very Strange that the five Nations Should have turned back and cannot make out the meaning of it, and that it is because he has been the Occasion of turning back so many People that you think so Strange of it, You desire me again Brothers not to blame you for it. Brothers. I do not blame you for it. but Brothers. if you apprehend any ill from the five Nations that he may lead the people that he has turned back with him to do mischief, you Should tell me so explicitly, if it is the Mohawks alone that are working this against you. You have but little to do with the Mohawks.

A String Black & White

Brothers.

It is true that we have some of your people tied here and you wish me to let them loose that nothing may be in the way to hinder us from Begining the Good Work —

Brothers,

It is a long time ago that I sent a Meſsage to you at the Tawa river about these people, and I have not yet had an answer to it. I must have an answer to that Speech It is not enough to come now and say it was : people that had no sense that did the Mischief which occasioned their Being tied, the five Nations has pointed out who it was that did it. If you did not receive the Meſsage I sent you at the Tawa River. I have a Copy of it here and will repeat it to You. Brothers if the United States had not sincerely wished to be at Peace with you I had never Sent that Meſsage but gone to war immediately which I was ready for. but the Great Spirit put in my heart not to lift the Tomahawk, for it might be that the Mischief was not done with the knowledge of the Nations.

Brothers,

I have here the Speech of the five Nations on that Subject which you may hear if you wish it It was sent to me in the Name of all the Nations. You know whether he was authorised or not. –

Brothers,

It may be that your people are tied hard and are hurt by it, Untill some run away they were tied very loose: and after that it was necessary that these should be made fast. but to shew you how ready I am to Oblige you. I will have their feet let loose which will give them some ease: untill you have time to consider of an answer. –

A String Black & White

Brothers,

The information you gave me this morning which was forgot yesterday is of very serious importance. it is somewhat extraordinary It should have been forgotten Measures will be taken to prevent the Mischief if it is not already done.

Brothers,

You do not tell me when you got information of the flying Gun's intentions, nor when he set off. nor what part you will take Yourselves if it be true. these are things I should know.

A String Black & White

The Message to the nations in July was then at their request read and interpreted to them;

Fort Harmar Decr 15th

In Council

Present as Yesterday

After the Governors answer and Message, Guyachca rose and begged the Chiefs to continue upon their Seats and likewise requested the same of the Governor. –

Cornplanter. Brothers. of all the Nations here aſsembled when I arrived at this Council fire my Nephews the Delawares requested to apply for the liberty of the prisoners. it made him very sorry to see them but yet I could not do it with propriety untill you had all aſsembled then would be the time . . .

A Black String

The woman that was with them also requested me to Speak for them. still I gave the same answer and desired them not to be uneasy, as he would do every thing in his power for them, he promised her he would do so.

A String

To the Governor.

Brothers,

Will you listen to me you see that the Nations are now aſsembled at your fire, Brother, my intention is always to make peace 'tis long since I arrived and I will aſsist the Nations in that busineſs. I return thanks for what you have done this day which relieves me.-

Brothers,

'Tis true you have relieved their feet but is that all you can do You have frequently told me we shall be as one and I consider it so & request they may be at liberty entirely.

Brothers,

dont you know we have done every thing we can let others know also that it is so, and let Nothing hinder the Good Work to go on,

Brothers,

You will Consider it well and I hope

you will let them out of the Gates that the Good work may now go on.

A White String

Cornplanter to the Chiefs,

I have now said all I have to say at present but I request you to keep your Seats and give an answer as soon as possible to the Governor.

Captain Joseph a Cayuga Chief rose and addressed the Assembly.

Brothers of 13.

Listen you have heard bad news, the flying Sun. I tell you he was so sick, when it is said they were going to Strike. he was hardly able to walk, Then Brant insisted upon us two Chiefs to return back with him. We answered they were determined to hear what their Brother had to say at the Council fire as they could not understand Writing, for that he wrote and got answers and told them what he pleased, and it was not communicated to them, he begs what has been reported may not be taken Notice of as he believes it may turn out to be lies.

Duentete Spoke

Brothers,

The United States and all the Nations here assembled. I return thanks to the Great Spirit who has now permitted us to assemble at this place. —

Brothers,

It is the Great Spirit that rules us both and Governs our minds.

I think more seriously of those matters than perhaps you may imagine. I am determined for peace and not for war, then follows what Mr. Williams wrote.

Brothers,

You have now heard our answer to the Speech you sent us 'tis from all the Chiefs present at this fire.

Brothers, hope you will not think light of what we say to you concerning the Great Spirit. he has as equal regard for us as for you. Brothers. hope every thing we have said will Settle to the Bottom of your hearts.

The Governors Reply.

Brothers, You request of us to deliver all prisoners back we have. I have one circumstance to mention, there is a prisoner of the Name of Abraham Kuhn, but as Captn. Joseph Brant has prevailed upon him to return with him as being a friend of his. We did not think worth while to tie him and bring him here to you, but if he came you was welcome to him, and if you want him yet you must send and get him.

Brothers, of Thirteen U. S.

How is this to be Settled Concerning the prisoner which was taken at our fire. I sent back the man that was taken without any difficulty. before even we had any thing settled with us Indians, not only this one but we also sent another with him by Mr. Wilson was there any difficulty. there was not a Single word said against it. as our wishes was to let every thing go on regular. —

Brothers,

You say you wish to have an answer to your Speech concerning your people that were killed & taken. at the falls of Muskingum. that Speech was never received. it was concealed from us. You will remember when we had the Council at Fort McIntosh. that you requested of me to return all your people that was with us taken prisoners, did we not comply with You? at that time we did let all loose. why do you ask us again. You well know that with a great deal of trouble we got the prisoner back from those people that had taken him. —

Brothers,

If You wish to have all your people back We have not in the least any objections. take them every where you see them, as it is impossible for us to make them go, as they are partly mix'd with us.

Brothers,

To convince you that far from refusing any thing you request of me, We have now Eight of your people in my Custody, which we have purchased from our people that is the Cherokee, as we hope to see every thing go on regular We intend to deliver them, as soon as you think conveniently will serve. We hope our request of you will not be refused as for our Brothers the Ottawas & Chippewas. they have not one of your Blood.

The Governor to all the Nations,

Brothers,

I am well Satisfied with what you have now said & will consider of a proper answer. You are much mistaken if you suppose I will make light of what you say about the Great Spirit. It is upon him we all depend. and I am happy to see you have so just a sense of his Superintending power and providence.

Deciontete to the Senecas &c

Brothers,

I am very happy to meet you at this Council fire, it is true you have come a great way down this river to do this business. I have also come a great way to compleat the good work we are at. We hope the Great Spirit above will protect you and us to go on with this business regularly as we would wish to have it

Captn. Joseph a Cayaga

Brothers,

'tis very certain that the Chiefs of the Delawares and other Nations had desired you to Stop up the bung 'tis true if it had been open it might have prevented the Good Work going on, by keeping back those who might have met it coming in and Selling their Skins but now we wish it to leak a little ----- A little Spirit ordered for them and distributed in the Council house before they rose. The fire raked up and the Council adjourned to the next day.

December 16th.

The Governor in private Council with the Chiefs — He wished to know from them their private Opinion as to the truth of the information they had given about the flying Sun & Brant, when they

received the information & by whom, and asked them to send up some of their people who they could depend upon, to look at the road from Tuscarora's to Fort Pit. if they had gone along that road they had gone for mischief. if they were not gone along it. they should come back by the falls of Muskingum and so down here. — —
The information was brought to them by a Wyandot Chief. It is nine days since he left Brant. After Brant had seperated from the rest, he stopped at some distance and Waited untill the Shawanese the Delawares that came with them and the Miamis came up. They held a Council together and Brant told these people that nothing could be done with the United States. that they could be Satisfied with, that now they had the choice of peace and War, which ever they determined upon would be his Choice. if they chose to go to war. he would help them, but if they were for peace he would acquiesce, that they all declared for war. and then it was Settled that Brant and his people should Strike about fort Pit. and the others should Strike at this place. It is their opinion there was nothing more meant by it. but to prevent those people from Coming here, but they are not sure of that. they thought it very right to send and see what they were about and they put it upon the pipe, who said he would send immediately again. for that he has already sent and expected his people in every minute. the Governor then asked them to consider in case it should be true that they meant to Strike immediately

what part they would take whither they would stay here and Join the troops and Militia or set home and sit Still. he did not desire an immediate answer, but wished them to Consider of it deliberately and Maturely. In the course of Conversation they Spoke hard of Brant and Mentioned as a reason why the aſsembled nations had not given an answer to the Meſsage sent them in July, a Speech which Brant said he had received from General Harmar. He threw it into the fire as soon as he had read it and then told them it was a very bad one, that the Nations on the Wabash were Called by this to Fort St. Vincennes, and he had proposed to the five Nations when those should be met there, to join the Americans and fall upon the Delawares, Wyandots & Shawoonese, and cut them off and the five Nations should enjoy their Country. he said every thing he could against the Americans, and drawing a Sword that he always carried, stuck it into the Ground and told them there was a sword for them Use it when they pleased against them. They appeared much satisfied that the Governor had refused to go to the falls of Muskingum for if any thing had been refused them, that he Brant, thought proper to demand it was likely that the Sword would have been buried in his Body. The Governor aſsured them of the falsity of the information about General Harmar, and promised to shew them a Copy of the Meſsage he sent to the Western Indians, and the Meeting broke up. the Meſsage was afterwards shewn to them.

and they said they had been most Groſsly imposed upon by Brant.

No further Council this Day.

Fort Harmar Decr 18th.

In Council

Deuentete

Brothers,

I am very happy to meet you all this day which the Great Spirit has allowed us to Aſsemble. You requested of me the day before Yesterday to give you as positive answer as I could, whether if those people that have turned back do any Mischief. I will join them or not, I told You before that I had only one tongue which spoke from my heart. I beg that the Six Nations will give their answer to the Governor first, as You partly Know my Sentiments already it is only the Six Nations whose minds we do not Know therefore I beg he will rise.

To the Six Nations

Brothers,

Listen to me you have heard our voice now. The Indians that are aſsembled at this Council fire have already told it to You, that the Six Nations are to give their Answer first, as they are well acquainted with the Intentions of the five Nations that have turned Back therefore I think they have the best right to speak first, You have partly concealed this Affair.

Brothers, the Six Nations

Be Strong, you Know well that this Buſineſs we have to do. has been along time on hands. and we have yet done Nothing in it, we have been doing our endeavours to Establish peace and friendship with our Brothers the United States of America. It is he only that this busineſs depends upon. we wish now to let all our Brother Indians that are here aſsembled. likewise our Brothers the United States hear our voice, to let them Know 'tis the Six Nations that has caused the busineſs of settling a peace to be so backward, and also the cause of the Mischief done at the Council fire, therefore we beg him to speak for himself in presence of all our Brethren, I will tell you for Instance, You will remember the Council fire you made at the Miamis River, 'tis there this evil work sprung from your own Mouths, at the time that evil work was done at the Miamis River it was conveyed all the way to Michilimackinac. telling our Brothers there to be ready early in the Spring to Strike the United States.

Brothers. the Six Nations.

Another instance of what you have done at the same time you drew your sword & stuck it in the Ground for the Wiachtenoes, desiring them to Strike the United States, and to convince you that I was for Peace, last Spring when the Graſs was Springing out of the Ground, We made it our busineſs to go and take the sword out of the hands of the Wiachtenoes, and told them that if they Listened to the Six Nations, that our Nations. ~~[illegible]~~ ~~Nations~~ would fall. it is Peace that we wanted to make with our Brothers, the United States, this is the Speech I made to them when I took the Sword out of their hands, and desired them to listen to the good works we are making at present.

Brothers. the 13. States

You have heard what I said just now, it was us Wyandots and our Nephews the Delawares, likewise our Brothers the different Nations that You see here Assembled at this Council fire, at that time when I took the sword out of the Wiachtenoes hands. Brothers, Wiachtenoes listen to us of the Wyandot Nation, and our Brother Indians, if you wish to listen to Councils it will be for the good of all our Nations. We shall live, We have Kindled a fire for all Nations to meet us and we desire you to Kindle another for the different Nations that live about You; and desire them to lay Still and listen to the Speech we shall relate to You, it is this, Our Brothers the United States have Kindled a fire for us, I am now ready to rise up and meet them at that fire they have Kindled for us, it is for the Good of all Nations, and that our Children may live and grow up with out disturbance, and it is our wishes from our hearts to make peace with our Brothers the United States, if the great Spirit above, will allow us to agree in the good works we are now going to make at this Council fire. I hope you will follow us and join to do the same as we shall.

Brothers.

Listen to us you have heard what our brothers the Wyandots, Delawares, and the different Nations said to you just now; when the Six Nations arrived at our Council fire. that the Wyandots & Delawares and other Nations had Kindled for all Nations of Indians to meet at. he just sat down and rose up immediately Kindled another fire at the Miami fire. it is the Six Nations alone that has delayed this business and it is his fault that winter has now overtaken us.

Brothers of the United States.

This is our reason for speaking in the manner we have done, when we the Wyandots were on our way to come to this Council fire. the Six Nations struck us with two Belts of Wampum on our Backs, that us Wyandots should have sent to the Seven Nations of the Canawagas, and they conveyed them to the Six Nations to let them Know they were their friends & that they wished not to conceal any thing from them Us Wyandots should have told the Seven Nations not to Listen to the Six Nations, and let every thing pass thro their Ears. that they said. & this is what the Six Nations has Cast up to our faces. Brothers. you have now heard what we Indians that are Assembled at this Council said to you just now. I suppose you think what can be the reason that the Indians did not meet here sooner. it is true, you have been here since early in the Spring. —

Brothers, I hope you will not think hard of it is not you alone that has waited so long for this Meeting our neck is also Stretched, as well as yours with looking to see our Brother Indians coming to our Council fire, early in the Spring I was ready to meet you, but as the Six Nations told us that they would meet us early in the Spring, and I could see nothing of his coming and oftentimes he sent Messages to us. that he would be up in twenty days, and every vessel I saw Coming with her wings Stretched out to the Winds, I expected to see our Brothers the Six Nations on board her but was always deceived, and this was the case all summer long. now our necks are yet considerably — Stretched with looking out for us Indians, and it is the same case with us Wyandots, Delawares, & our Brothers, We hope you will over look those matters, as the Great Spirit above would have it so, And there is no remedy for it, except the Six Nations can press our heads down and put them in their place again, this is the treatment we have both received from the Six Nations. —

Brothers,

This is all I have to say to you at present hope you will urge the Six Nations to Speak,

Joseph the Cayaga Chief to the Wyandots —

Brothers, We have heard what you had to say & will Consider it, we will now cover the Council fire and retire to consult together, about our answer untill to morrow.

Brothers the Six Nations

Brothers the Six Nations.

Decembete Again. You tell me now that we must delay the business till tomorrow. We are really surprised at you to be delaying this business so long from day to day; 'tis not this alone but in the business we have with our Brothers the United States, that you are delaying. Consider the Business with our Brothers the U. S. is a great business. Therefore we insist upon your answer early in the morning. Your business must be great Indeed that you Cannot return us answer before to morrow. —

Cayaga Chief to the Indians —

Brothers. Chiefs Young Men & Warriors listen to me and hear what I have to Say.

Brothers. You have told us that we have been delaying the Business, I say it is your fault. You have been all day pointing at us in every speech you have made, Brothers, We don't mean to delay the business longer than to morrow, We must have a little time to Consider of it, We mean to deliver our Sentiments to morrow Morning, When we will say all we have to say, to you and our Brothers the United States. —

Fort Harmar Decr. 19th

In Council.

Cayaga.

Brothers, of all the Nations that are here, Listen to what I say from the Six nations, likewise Brothers 13 United States.

In return God thanks that we have the pleasure to meet our Brothers at this Council fire this Morning. —

Brothers,

We the Six Nations, now put on dry good wood that our Council fire may Clear.

Brother Indians,

Listen now to the Six Nations God is looking down upon us to see what we are doing we hope he will enable us to do all things right.

Brothers, Wyandots & Delawares, You asked us yesterday to tell our Intentions with regard to what the Governor had proposed, We will now sweep away all obstructions from our fire & you shall hear what we mean.

Brothers,

You seemed to point at the Six Nations yesterday and said they delayed the business and caused you a great deal of trouble. Brothers, we wish that you will listen to us, You said many things to us Yesterday. that might make us uneasy, but I now dig a deep hole in the ground and bury all that was then said, and will now give this String to our Brothers the United States, as they also are concerned with you and not you alone. —

A White String

Cornplanters,

Brothers. Indians, now Assembled, listen to the Senecas & the five Nations, We are all met with our Brothers, the 13 U. States and are now Setting together. Brothers, I am now going to give you a reason why this good business has been delayed. —

Brothers.

of Different Tongues here Assembled. I feel for you as much as for our Brothers the 13 fires. —

Brothers.

I have often desired you to listen to me, but you would not hear me, Brothers. I now tell you that I am Setting with the 13 fires - And I have got hold of him & I will Keep that hold fast.—

Brothers.

I now hope you will listen well to me, it was me that first Kindled the Council fire, and when you were round it. I desired you to go with us to meet our Brothers the 13 fires.-

Brothers.

You well recollect that when we Kindled the Council fire that you were there at it, as well as our Brothers the Shawanese & Others. My Young Brothers, the Wyandots, You know that the Six Nations desired You and the Shawanese to rise up and go to the Council fire at Fort Stanwix but you would not do it but hearkened to Brant, and would not them. I beg of you all to listen to me now, for then I was interrupted & Brant went away I did not Know where, which caused great confusion in the Nations-

Brothers,

You are very well acquainted with what I said, and you know that I sent to you to rise and go to the Council fire. You Wyandots also know that when you received my speech you did not hearken to it but you and the Shawanese rose up & went away.

I am very sorry that our Young Brothers the Shawanese will not let any good thing that is said to him enter into his heart but throws it away and will not listen to it. it makes me very sorry that the Shawanese would not hear me as they were present when I dug a deep hole & buried up every thing that had happened with our Brothers the Thirteen fires.

Brothers,

I have not forgot what we did there, when I met our Brothers the Thirteen fires, at their Council fire, I well remember that we made a Strong and firm peace and No one can say that I have pulled a hair out of the head of our Brothers the 13 fires since. I beg that the Shawanese will first listen to me, & you Wyandots and Delawares listen well to what I am now going to say. the Shawanese forgot before they arrived at their own homes what I had told them and desired them to think of.—

Cornplanters,

Brothers, I wish that what I now say to you. You will let it enter into your hearts, and receive it well. Brothers. I am very sorry, that you are so very foolish and pity you. Your folly was the cause of the fall of one of your Brothers for which I am very sorry.

A String Black & White

Brothers,

After I had made peace with the 13 fires you different Nations reflected upon me, and blamed me, and said I had sold your Lands.

Brothers & friends,

You said a great deal about it, but it never disturbed me in the least. If I had got Angry it would have been hurtful to you all my Younger Brothers. I took pity on you, and I rose up from my Council fire, & went to the Great Council of the 13 fires. Brothers, I am sorry while I was upon that business, You took up the Tomahawk & Struck towards the sun setting.

Brothers,

My Brothers the thirteen fires desired me to be Strong, to tell you to live in peace that our women and Children might live happy as long as the sun should shine, Brothers when I was at the Great Council, they told me that the line ran thro the middle of the Lakes to the Mississippi, and that the King of England had made that line with him, when I returned from the Great Council, I brought you the Copy of the treaty between our Brothers the United States and the Great King. You must remember that I left it with you as I sat at our Great Council fire, and told you that I had seen the Original with the Great seal of England, and it was Signed by the King of England with his own hand,

Brothers,

Listen well to me, when I returned it you at our Council. for You would not listen to me but Insisted to Speak first. Brothers. the Shawanese then spoke to me and said. I have now got the Tomahawk in my hand that was given me by the Great King of England to Strike the 13 fires. he has not taking it out of my hand and I will use it, It was then Bloody. That is the reason they would not hear me. If you recollect I told You that If any person was proud of heart they would surely meet with trouble. I also informed You that I had been very proud of heart myself and was well acquainted with the many troubles that a proud heart meets with.

Brothers, the Wyandots listen to me, tis now the Senecas that speak. You never would listen to what I have Said but I beg you will now hear me.

Brothers,

All the Nations setting round you would not listen to me but listened to Brant. Yesterday you was pointing at me and Said,. I did hearken to what Brant had Said, and that you did not listen to him, Brothers, You have now heard what I have said. And I hope you will not now forget.

A White String

Brothers, the Wyandots.

Listen well to me, I have considered well what you have said yesterday and the Great God, was looking down upon me all the time I was thinking of it, Yesterday if you recollect, you told me Brant had Behaved very bad, listen now to the Senecas who Speak.

Brothers.

You spoke truth Yesterday in what you sai of Brant. I hope you of the 13 fires as well as our Brothers Indians here aſsembled will keep your Ears well Open to hear me. —

Brothers. I now tell you that I take Brant & set him down in his Chair at home and he shall not Stir out of his house, but will keep him there fast, he shall no more run About amongst the Nations disturbing them and causing trouble.

Brothers.

We now agree to let this busineſs go on well and that we may all live, I do not wish Brant to die, let him live I pity him. Brothers, Take this String in remembrance of what the Six Nations have said.

A Black & White String

Brothers. I hope now you have all heard that I have put Brant up in his house. I now give this String to you our Brothers the 13 United States. that he may not forget what I have done, A White String

Brothers

The Wyandots and all other tribes here Aſsembled listen now to me brothers the Wyandots You always aſsisted Brant in his bad conduct and was like to be the cause of our being nearly destroyed from this Island.

Brothers, the Wyandots,

Listen well to me. You know that the five Nations always had pity on you, when you was in a bad way we Aſsisted you. —

Brothers.

I have considered what our forefathers have said and remember it well. You must also remember it and tell it to the different Nations towards the Sun Setting, make them recollect it and advise them to Good.

Brothers,

The Wyandots. I pray to God to let your hearts be Clear, and that you would advise the different Nations towards the west and that our Brothers, the 13 fires may be glad to hear you had done so.

Brothers,

be Strong and send these speeches quickly to the Nations towards the Sun Setting that they may be prevented from doing any Mischief and I say do it quickly that our Brothers the 13 fires may know that we desire to live peaceably with them.

A String Black & White

Cornplanters. Brothers, Indians, I am now going to Speak to our Brothers the 13 fires:

Father. Listen to me I now Call you father Because I have come out of your belly.

Father, I am now going to tell you when you first came into this Island. Father you know that when you came first to this Island and saw the five Nations You loved them as you knew what a great and good Nation they were, Father the first of our Council fires was held at Schenectady and then they were made one upon one side, and one upon the other and they shone all over the Island, Father you have now grown so big and so strong that none can injure you.

Father.

I hope you look up towards Heaven and return thanks to God for your greatneſs.

Father.

You told me that all this land is yours I hope you will take pity on the Native inhabitants of this Country. as they took pity on you when you first arrived at this Island.

Father.

I know it is in your power to satisfy all these people here as they are diſsatisfied, Listen well to what I say and I hope God will make every thing right I hope you will consider well of the Great Busineſs You have Charge of all this land. and I hope you will satisfy the Minds of all that are uneasy. let them know the Boundary line of your land and they will soon acquaint all the Nations with it, in order that they may be Satisfied.

Cornplanters,

Let what you now do be Strong that it may last as long as the Heavens shall remain, — Consider well of this busineſs. Consider these people. You know they live by Hunting.

Now I am done speaking to you About the Lands when God first let you down upon this Island. he had pity upon you and has aſsisted you. and now you know—

how to make every thing and have every thing in plenty. Brothers. I see you are well Clothed, I wish you would also Cloath our Brothers. Indians. that they may be Warm at our Council; and they will be pleased I wish what you do to be lasting that it may never grow Old.

Father,

This is one of our old Council Belts. I now make it new and I hope you will Consider well what I have Said that all may be right. Father take the End of this Belt in your hand you have now hold of the Belt with all the Nations. and I hope you will think well of it and it shall tie us together that we cannot be seperated.

A Belt

Now I have finished all I have to say for the five Nations

December 17th. —

The Chiefs in Council by themselves.

December 19th.

Brothers. of all the Nations here Assembled.

The answer you made to me on the 15th. and what has now been said has given my heart some ease I thought it very Strange that no notice was taken of the Meſsage I sent to the Nations so long ago as July, it looked as if the Mischief that was Done at the falls had been within their knowledge and by their directions. Now I am satisfied that it was not so, and as the speech was Concealed from them it was not poſsible that they should give an answer to it.

A String White

Brothers,

You might have seen that I did not think the Nations generally more concerned in that Mischief by the readineſs with which I gave up one of the Men to your Nephew the Delawares, if it had been the publick act of all the Nations, None of them would ever have been released, all the Nations of the world gree in punishing such flagrant Breaches of the publick faith.

A String White.

Brothers, the Wyandots,

I thank you for the pains you have taken to obtain, with a design to send them home, our flesh and Blood from the People who made them prisoners. It was a good Work and the Great Spirit who knows the hearts and sees the actions of all Mankind will regard you for it. It is his command that we should love one another and be kind to each other and we are all the work of his hands. But Brothers there is a Custom got in amongst you, of one Nation Making prisoners, and another buying them this Custom must be put a Stop to for as long as the foolish people who love Mischief can sell the prisoners they take. they will continue to take them, and we never shall have peace that will last. I will think no more of the Mischief that was done up the River the waters of forgetfulneſs shall overflow this place and wash out every trace of it. that it may no more trouble either you or us. It was the act of people who had no sense. and there are such among all Nations.

A White & Black String

Brothers the Wyandots.

You asked me why I said any thing again About giving up prisoners did you not deliver all you had agreeable to your Engagements at Fort Mc Intosh.

Brothers,

Take notice what I said about prisoners was to all the Nations that were Assembled at the Miamis River. You the five Nations, the Senecas, the Wyandots & the Delawares of the Wolf tribe did fulfil your Engagements and gave up your prisoners, but since the treaty at Fort Mc Intosh, there have been many of our people made prisoners by some of other Nations. If they all had met me here as I expected that matter must have been Settled before we could have gone one step forwards in the Great Work. as they are not all here their absence shall not hinder it with those that are come.

A String Black & White.

Brothers of all the Nations present,

Now our hearts are at ease. I shall be ready to proceed with You in the Good work Whenever we have Settled About the delivery of the prisoners, that are in the Hands of the Wyandots, there is one likewise that I know of with the Ottawas, and for the performance of it they must leave in my hands as hostages some of their people, when they have pointed out the persons.

the prisoners here will be delivered to you and I will then with pleasure hear what you have to Say to me on the Great Business.

Deuentete.

Brothers 13 U States, listen to all the Nations that are round this fire, concerning what I said Yesterday that happened to us Indians. I am very happy to see every thing did in a proper manner this day. as the great Spirit above has been their teacher to Settle it, in the manner they have done, we take and bury every thing that was harsh betwixt us. and will think no more of it.

Brothers U. S.

We have now met here at this fire by the permission of the Great Spirit. You say in regard of the prisoners that You have in your possession, that when I leave some of my men as hostages, Untill I return the prisoners I have, then You will comply with us. After that all our business shall go on regularly. we shall take into Consideration this night and give you answer to morrow, every thing you have said to me goes to the bottom of my heart, as I told you before, We are people that wish to make peace and be in friendship with You

A Black String.

Deuentete. Brothers. U. S. You point at me Wyandt and the Ottowas, in particular of having. some of

Your people I wish to inform you there is here part of the Six Nations assembled in this house who live with us, he has some of your people as well as me. we Shall consult with each other concerning it, when we have Consulted together we Shall give an answer, As it is my Desire that this Business that you Know we have come About, should be done as soon as possible. —.

20th December

The Chiefs of the Wyandots and other Nations sent to request that the Council might be ajourned for three days, as it was Necessary for them to Change their Camps the food for their horses being exhausted, and besides all their principal men were not yet arrived, but by that time they would Certainly be up which was agreed to,

23d A Message from Shendeta the Head man of the Wyandots requesting the Meeting might be delayed one day longer as he had but just Arrived. and required a little time to refresh himself and get information of what was done. —

In Council Decr. 28th

Shendeta,

Brothers, Listen to us the Indians that are Assembled with You, this day as is Appointed by the Great Spirit above, 'tis he Alone that made us all.

Brothers. You tell us to begin with this work as soon as we please that you might hear what we have to say, Brothers. We are quite unacquainted with the treaty of peace, you made with our great father the King.

Brothers. This was not the case the last war You had with the King of France, when you made peace with them it was made known to all Nations on this Island but it was not the case with this last treaty.—

Brothers, It is the request of us Wyandots, Ottowas— Chippiwas and all our Brethren the Indians that are aſsembled, it is our request to know how you made the treaty with the King of England, We desire you would inform us now.—

Brothers, The Great King of England our Father has kept this Affair quite a secret. he has kept us ignorant of it, that is the reason we now ask it of You.

Brothers, It is very hard that our father has kept this from our knowledge, it is the Great Spirit above that made us, it was never known that the father should keep his Children in ignorance of the World.—

Brothers, Our father tells us that he never gave our Country away to the United States, it was only the Posts that are Garrisoned, he likewise tells us that the United States tell Great falshoods, in saying, he gave away our Country to them, that is the reason we now request of you the truth of this matter.

A Belt.

The treaty was read, and interpreted to them, and the Boundary as it is marked upon Jeffries Map in 1783 was shewn to them Shendeta then rose and spoke as follows

Brothers.

We have all heard you now, that are aſsembled at this Council fire. You have made Known to us the treaty you held with the King. We the different Nations that are aſsembled at this Council fire, it was kindled for you as well as for all the Nations. We have heard your voice concerning the treaty We cannot Say any thing farther to day, it is to be hoped the Great Spirit above will teach us the way how to speak and to declare our sentiments to you to morrow, we hope that it will be for the good of us all, as I would wish peace and friendship should remain between You & us

A White String Wampum

In Council Decr. 29th 1788.

Shendeta.

Brothers, we are very happy to meet you here this morning, and as it has pleased by the Great Spirit above that we should meet this day to commence the good Work, we are going about, we hope he will teach us how to do it.

Brothers,

I now uncover the fire for all the Nations that are aſsembled. as well as for the 13 U. States. I will put this fire in proper order. Nothing shall remain but the Clear fire itself.

A White String

Brothers,

We are very happy you informed us Yesterday the circumstances between you and us. likewise you inform'd your Children the Six Nations of the same, we all give you thanks that you have let into the light of it,

Brothers,

We told you yesterday that we would give an Answer this Morning, which shall be spoken in behalf of all the Nations that you see here Present. Whenever our Brother Ottawa, comes in, that is yet wanting in Council, We shall begin.

A String Black & White

Brothers,

Listen to us well, what I say to you concerning what has happened with us since we have been in this Country. I hope you will have pity on me Wyandot if I should Speak wrong in your Opinion.

Brothers, It is me that you see standing here an Indian I wish now to let you know how I came first to this Country, as I dreamed about it some time ago which I Shall relate to you now. —.

Brothers,

It is this when I came into this Country first the Dreams that I have had has informed me that the Wyandot nation Was the first man that the Great Spirit Placed upon this Ground.

Brothers,

Here is my Nephews the Delawares that came Next after me, he is my own Nephews and this was my dream, Brothers, at that time I sent some of my Nephews the Delawares to the sea Shore to the East to look out and see when great beasts should come into this Country, Brothers, while he was on the watch he spied a great beast coming upon the waters of the Sea, and what should it be but the French who was our father first. I shall only tell You a few words how we sprung out of the earth into this Country, Brothers, I sent my Nephews a Second time to the sea Shore upon the same business as he went before, and the Next thing he Saw coming upon the Water was yourself Brother. and you landed here in this Island, and you begged the favor of my Nephew to let you remain only one night on shore, he replied to you that he was not Master, that there was a great man where he came from who was his Uncle, that he could not give him a positive answer untill he went back to him. —

Brothers.

My Nephews the Delawares came back with this Account to me, that he had seen another great Beast coming upon the Waters of the Sea and that it had landed upon the Shore, and requested of me to let him Remain only for one night. I sent him Back immediately and on his way down he met with the Six Nations who asked my Nephew who he was. he replied that he was the Nephew of the Wyandots who was the Great man of his Country, he then (says the Six Nations) whom you call the Wyandot is my Brother —

Brother.

I permitted you to remain one night as

you had requested of me, and after this you begged of me to let you have a little ground, to make you fire upon, as you said you would visit me very Often. and the Quantity of land you requested of me was as much as one Cow hide could cover. —

Brothers.

My Nephews then agreed with you for as much land as one Cow hide could cover. and you gave him a little of your tempting liquor which made him a little Giddy & foolish. and in the mean time you cut this cow hide into a String that covered a Considerable Quantity of Ground, and that is the way you first took me in for a piece of land in this Country. —

Brothers.

After my Nephew came to his senses & saw what You had done to him, he said to you, you have Cheated me for once, is this the way you are going to treat me always, while you remain in this Country? You replied then, No Brother, far from it I do not mean to treat You in that Manner, but Still you had another request to make of him, that was an addition of more land to that you had already got, as you would go no distance out to hunt, but only round the fences. Not only this, but you had a great many people to take care of, and that place was too Small,

Brothers,

My Nephews complied with your

request for a Quantity of land as far as a man could go in a day and Back again, and you had one of the Swiftest runners out of Europe who did this business for you to our Surprize, When we came to measure we Could scarcely get to where he turned in a day and that was the way you got the Second Quantity these are the dreams that I have dreamt. —

Brothers,

Here is the Second cheat you made upon me, says my Nephew, I told you that this would always be the Case if you sat down beside me, he immediately came to one Wyandot, who was the Greatest man Known in the Country among us Indians, and I told him not to give any more land after this, let us see what he will do to us if we refuse him a third request. This is the finishing of the Dream, I am but a foolish man that you see here Standing.

A Belt White

Brothers. You have now heard my dream now concerning the lands that you have got since, and how you advanced so far this way I cannot tell, as I have not dreamt of it, but here are belts which came from you It is your voice. Brothers, here is one of the Belts which I now present to you with the road which you made for us, and here are pieces of Parchment with some writing upon them It seems very dirty at present. Brothers. I shall only tell you a few words on this Belt as I have no occasion to tell you all as it came from your own mouth. — it is this, When we join'd hand in hand that Nothing

Should Seperate them from each other. Brothers, this is what you said to me, when you first saw me, Wyandot in this Country, you gave me this Belt as a token of friendship, that if any thing amiss should hereafter arise between us in this Country, that I might have this to shew you, and you would then be able to see what You had Said to me. Brothers, I do not remember what you have said upon this Belt, as when it was given, I suppose I was then Nothing but Water.

Brothers.

There is another Belt, which I remember Perfectly well, when it was given, I was then just a Young man given, Brothers, the first Quarrel You had with the french, which was an engagement you had with them at Fort Pit. We then Several Chiefs were then present at that time,

Brothers.

You told me it was very hard that my Father the french had Stopped up the road that You had made, for you and me for it was a fine road. Brothers, say you the road is now stopped between You and me, the french will some time or other, come with his Tomahawk and beg of You to accept of it and tell if you don't, you will be all destroyed.

Brothers,

You hear the road is stop'd up between us, I told you that Nothing should ever part our hands asunder, without cutting our arms off.

and, then we shall take hold with the Other.

Brothers,

This was the Same Case when you disagreed with Our Father the English, you desired us not to Interfere or we would all be destroyed by our Father and this is all I have to say upon this Subject, I only wish you to see this once more what you have done with us, as you said at that time Nothing Should part our hands as you would join them with a Chain of Iron,

Two Belts. —

Brothers,

Listen well to what I shall say to you upon this Belt which belongs to us Indians as You call us. We are a poor helpleſs people, We do not know how to read or write, this is our book which we read by, what has happened in former days, and this is a belt which the Six Nations has given us together with his Brother the British.

Brothers,

It is this. when I received this Belt my Father and the Six Nations our Brothers told me that you had Settled Affairs concerning this Country & told me here was the division of this Country, & at the same time desired me to take Care of this Country, and live in peace with one another, You said then here on the South side of the Ohio is a tract of Land which I have Bought from the Six Nations, and this is the way the division was Made. —

Brothers. It is the request of all the Nations here present to you, to have pity & compaſsion on them & think how hard it would be for them to loose the remaining part of their Country, let the Ohio be the Boundary line as it was concluded upon before We are poor helpleſs people.

Brothers,

We request of You, all of us Nations that are here present, not to refuse this request we have made to you, as we are poor helpleſs people, and your Compliance will be the cause of the good Busineſs to go on regular and that our Young men may hereafter hunt without any danger of being Molested.

Brothers,

These are the proposals we agreed upon, it was the Ohio, made the Division between us and the Six Nations, it is him that you have to Settle with for that side of the River, and us for the other, this is what our Father the British and our Brothers, the Six Nations desired us to do. We are extremely happy to hear you say that every thing should go on regular, that we may live in Peace as long as the World shall Stand.—

Brothers,

Consider we have been leaving our whole trust in this Busineſs to the Great Spirit above that he may lead us the Right way, in it Think what a Great Sin We shall commit if we draw Back from what we have said, it is us Indians that

You see aſsembled here that have spoken this to you we shall allow any of them to get up and Speak and Give their own Opinion concerning the busineſs we are upon, here is a Belt with a White Stripe in the middle which we only wish you to look at once more what our father said to us in Ancient times, but here is another of White which I deliver to You. You will keep it in your Poſseſsion, that you may see what we have said to you upon the other Belt.

A Belt —

Deuentete coſe.

Brothers, We have now gone this this day with our Busineſs which the Great Spirit has been pleased to allow us to meet upon this Morning. We hope now that he will paſs us this this Night. that we may all rise to morrow morning with ease; as it is him alone we look to for aſsistance. You told us just now that we must meet early to morrow morning. We request of you to give us a glaſs of Water that we may come together cheerfully in the Morning.

A Speech delivered by Wyandots, Delawares, Tawas, Chippewas, Potowatamies and Six Nations.

Fort Harmar 4th Jany 1789

Brothers, We are very happy to meet you here this Morning as the Great Spirit above has appointed for us. We told You Yesterday that we would meet you this day. and we have accordingly done so, and we must give thanks to the Great God Above.

Brothers.

You will recollect what you Said to us a few days ago, You told us that we had Settled every thing that had happened at our fire up the River, and after we had made a new fire we then came upon the business of the line that was made at Fort Mc. Intosh, You told us to consider well upon that treaty.

Brothers.

As to what you said to us first We told you that in four days, we would be ready to let You have an answer the reasons we did not come as soon as we proposed is that the Chiefs had not all arrived that was the cause of detaining this Business.

Brothers.

You told us when we assembled the second time, us Indians that you see now here present, You told us a Second time that we should Consider well what was done at the treaty of Fort Mc.Intosh as it was of Great consequence to us both, You said I request of all you Indians that are here at this Council fire to take it into your serious consideration.

Brothers of the U. States,

Listen to what we shall say to you, some-time ago there was a Speech sent to You requesting of you to hear us once more, that it was the desire of all Nations of Indians to have another Council fire and you have Complied with our request as the great Spirit had allowed you to Agree with us, it is he alone that has shewn you the right way to go about this business You will recollect that before we sent our Message, you wanted to Kindle a fire for us, and it did not take place, as we had not at that time agreed with other Nations.

Brothers. You have told us to consider well what was done at Fort McIntosh, it is now going on three years that we have been always considering of it. and we don't understand you how you came to get this land from our Father, as none of us Know any thing about it, We cannot find out when it was that we should have given Our Lands to our Father, but as you requested Us to consider well we have done So. Brothers. We wish to acquaint you that there was but two Nations appointed by us Chiefs, which were the Wyandots & Delawares, to go and hear what our Brothers had to say. as for other Nations that happened to fall in with those two Nations, they were not Sent, but were out hunting at the time, Brothers. Listen well to us, we are now come to Settle all business that was left undone, in answer to what you Say about the treaty held at McIntosh, We Know that every thing was Settled at that time according to your wishes, We are desirous to Know how our great father came by the land for when the Great Spirit made the land it was for the Indians and not for the white people.

Brothers. We are very sorry that you did not make enquiry amongst us Indians before you entered into that business to know whether we had given the right of the land to our Father, as you very well knew that this Country did belong to us Indians. If you had done this at first all this trouble would have been saved, and to our Satisfaction.

Brothers,

Listen well to us Indians that are Assembled here this day you must not think that what we say is from us only that are here, it is from all the nations that are upon this Island, as you have Kindled this fire for that purpose you requested us to Consider well what passed at Mc Intosh. We now wish to let you know, we are a people that cannot read & write, and we shall explain it to you by rivers. here is Muskingum up to Tuscaroras and across to the carrying place coming to the heads of Cayaga and down that River 'til it empties into Lake Erie, here is the Ohio, up this River 'til it comes to the forks up Allegany River to the french Creek, from that to the Lake Erie again then along the lake to the mouth of Cayaga: Now Brothers, here is a large tract of Land that we Shall give you gratis, for you to plant corn in or whatever use you please to make of it, what we give to you was our property which you are well acquainted with the Great Spirit gave it to us Indians, and we have a right to do with it as we please, You know this to be all true.

A Belt

Brothers.

Listen to us Indians that are here aſsembled You desired us to consider what was done at Fort McIntosh and we have done so, it was appointed by the Great Spirit that we should do what we have done, as it is he that we put our Dependance on, and it is his wishes that we should be in peace and Friendship, We hope you will take the Busineſs into serious Consideration as we have before mentioned.

Brothers,

I hope you will take into Consideration as we have already desired you concerning these lines we have mentioned, We told you we could not read or write and this was reason for taking this River for a token, for a division between us Indians & You, down the Ohio River to the mouth thereof, we think that this should be so. and that this is the boundaries of the white people & no farther. You have marked our line but it is very Small. Be Strong Brothers & consider what we have said to you just now, if you wish to live in peace with us.

Brothers,

We have now explained to you in full our Sentiments We hope that you will think Seriously of it. and not do contrary to it, as we wish to live in peace and friendship, with you, these are our reasons for telling you to be Strong, and consider well our Situation, You must know that we cannot think of peace if you do not think seriously of it consider of the Generations that are to come how they will praise us if we do this work compleatly, and See that we thought of them as well as of ourselves, and if we can agree peace and friendship shall be Established between us.

A Belt -

Brothers,

This is a day that the Great Spirit has appointed for us to Speak and give our Sentiments to you, We wish not him, as we had promised that we would be ruled by him alone, and you likewise did the Same. as it is our desire to have peace and friendship with You, as long as the World Shall Stand. If we should do otherwise we should go contrary to his Will. Be Strong Brothers and Consider well what we are About. It will be for the benefit of our women & Children at present, as well as those who are to come. if we can compleat this business according to our wishes. the Great Spirit hears what we now say. and you must Consider that he will be much offended at us if we disagree --

A White String. -

Brothers.

You told us the other day in Council that we should be under the Necessity of leaving a few of our People here as hostages, until we should bring your own Flesh and Blood that was amongst us You told us that if we would do this, You would let out our people, who are now tied and Suffering, this is easily complied with. Brothers, this Shall not put a hindrance to our Good Works, we have considered of it and will do it, You will first let us know your Opinion upon what we have said just now.

Brothers.

We have now finished all we had to say to you We are very happy that you have listened to us, and Shall give thanks to the Great Spirit that Nothing amiss has happened to us since we have been here, and we now deliver our prayers to God, that it may always be the case. You have now heard the Sentiments of us Indians, it is me alone that has been warmed, we know now that You can make People warm without fire, I hope you will warm all those that sit round.

The Governor.

I have listened attentively to all you have Said. the proposal you have made is precisely the Same which was sent forward by Brant, which I have already replied at large. You are also under a Mistake about the Lands You offer to give us, but at Present I will say no more about it. to morrow you Shall have a particular answer to every thing you have now Said.

The fire Covered up and ajourned.

5th The Governor not able to Attend Council

January 6th.

Brothers.

I am Glad to see you all assembled here this morning, and I return thanks to God Almighty that I am now able to meet You.

Brothers,

In answer to what you said to me

two days ago I have to observe to you, that I did not expect to have heard that proposal of giving certain lands to the U States, Gratis, renewed, as I had given so full an answer to it when it was sent forward from Liking creek, and told you expressly that it could not be admitted, truly if this is what we have been waiting for, our time has been Spent to very little Purpose. Brothers, You say I have desired you to think well of what was done at Fort Mc Intosh, and that you have been considering of it, but cannot understand how we came to get this Land of the King of England, as none of you know any thing about it, nor when it was that your lands were given to him.

Brothers,

I did desire you to consider well of what was done at fort Mc Intosh, because it was there that a Boundary was first Established, Between the Wyandots Delawares and other Nations Westward, & the U. States, All the Boundaries that were made between the Indian Nations & the English people in America before that, were made with the King of England whose Subjects they then were. The treaties were called by his Orders & held by his Officers. If you were cheated at them, as you intimate, it was by them you were Cheated, not by the American People, who were not allowed to have any thing to do with Indian Affairs.

Brothers,

A few days ago, I Shewed you the treaty with the King of England, by which the Country was given up to the United States, I Shewed You a map published in England since that treaty by the Kings own map maker where the lines are all marked agreeable to the Treaty, and in the answer I sent to Your Message at Liking Creek. I endeavoured to explain to You how he had a right to do as he did with Your Lands, You say you cannot understand it I will endeavour to Explain it to you in another manner - suppose that a war was likely to happen between the Wyandot and some other great Nation, and the Shawonese could be of much use to either party, but the Wyandot trusting to the goodness of their Cause and their own bravery, are unwilling to involve any body else in their quarrel, they send to the Shawonese and tell them what is likely to happen, and that perhaps it may go hard with them, but they do not ask them (the Shawnese) to assist them, because should that other Nation get the better, the Shawanese who have nothing to do with the Quarrel, would Certainly be destroyed, the Shawonese Solemnly promise to set Still and help neither Party, but for all that they all join that other Nation, the war goes on a long time with various success, but at last the Wyandots get the Better and that other Nation begs Peace and offer as a Condition all the Lands of their Confederates the Shawonese, and a peace is accordingly made

Do you not think the Wyandots have got a very good right to that land? it is true the Shawonese are Still in Possession and may refuse to give it up, but as the Wyandots are now at peace with all the world there will be very little difficulty in drawing them off from it tho' it may cost them Some men, In that Situation the Wyandots Send to the Shawonese and tell them that they have made peace with that Other nation, who have not only left them the Shawanese to Shift for them Selves, but have given them their Country, but unwilling to add to their Misfortunes they may have peace upon surrendering a part of their Country to make amends for the injuries they did them by joining their Enemies, Do You not think the Wyandots would in this Case be very kind and generous to the Shawonese and that the Boundary agreed to between them on that condition ought to Stand, and that the Shawanese would act very unjustly and ungratefully if they Should come some time Afterwards and Say they were disatisfied with it, and that. that other Nation had no right to Give away their Lands. Yes! I Know you would think so and would laugh at them; Just so it was with the British and You my Brothers. Contrary to Your solemn engagements. You joined them in the War against us and did us much harm, After a long struggle we got the Better, they asked for peace and Your lands given up as part of the price. the United States would have been justified to all the World to have Marched their Armies into Your Country and punished you in an exemplary manner, but they Chose to give an example of Clemency. they Considered that the War had Spread Misery enough over many country's and were desirous to prevent its Spreading wider. they offered You peace upon the Condition of Surrendering a part of Your Country, You accepted it upon that condition, and a boundary was Established between you and them at the Oneida Carrying place, Fort M^c. Intosh, and the Miamis River. It was for these reasons I desired you to consider well upon what was done at these several Treaties. If there were ever engagements that should be binding upon Mankind, they were these, for the U. States, not only buried the remembrance of past injuries but made a generous division of the Ceded Country with You, and made you very valuable Presents of Goods besides, Indeed as they allowed You to hunt the Country they took Nothing from You that was of any use to You, their Conduct was most Generous, and You thought so then, if you had not listened to Evil Councellors you would never have thought otherwise, they have deceived you before, and they are deceiving now. Brothers, You make frequent appeals to the Great Spirit, and they were not less frequently made at M^c. Intosh do you suppose that the transactions there are unknown to him, or that the Solemn declarations of Your Sincerity are forgotten by him? Be not deceived god is not mocked he is the Searcher of hearts and abhors the lying lip.

Brothers,

You say there were but two Nations — Appointed to go to fort Mc. Intosh, the Delawares & Wyandots, and that the others fell in by accident Brothers, how are we to know who comes by accident or who by appointment. If you admit them into Council and Speak in their Names must we not consider that they are all by appointment, besides the Wyandots and Delawares there were at Mc. Intosh, Munsees, Chippewas, Ottawas and Shawanese, and the Half King declared he Spoke in the Name of all the Nations present. ——

Brothers.

The U. States ask no Lands of the Indian Nations Gratis. When they want Lands, and the Nations are willing to Sell, they will buy from them at an agreed price, they Scorn equally to tell them falshoods as to Cheat them, But You are Mistaken even About the lands You offer. From the Mouth of little Beaver Creek up to the Lake, and from thence East to the line of New York, and then South to the Ohio, which comes to the Mouth or near it of Connowigo and so down to little Beaver was Sold to the State of Pensylvania at Mc. Intosh, and paid for by him, part at the time, which You Yourselves Received and the Rest was delivered the Next Summer at the Mouth of the Tioga as Captn Joseph there Sitting very well Knows,

Brothers,

I have repeatedly told You it is the wish of the United States to live in peace with all the World I have told You likewise that if you will have War You may have war, but that you may be convinced I am earnest in my desires for peace, if you will renew and Confirm the Boundary Established at Fort Mc Intosh, an Article shall be inserted in the treaty confirming to You the right to hunt in it, which was before agreed between the Commiſsioners & You but not made an Article of. And a farther Consideration I will add a Quantity of Goods, the Value of which shall be agreed upon between us, We have now spent a great deal of time about this Affair I shall Expect your Answer to Morrow, and will have the Writings prepared.

January 7th 89 —

Shendeta,

Brothers, Listen to what us Indians that are Aſsembled, Shall Say to You this day which the Great Spirit above has appointed for us, we have paſsed this This day with great Pleasure. Brothers, we had a Meeting here when You explained your Sentiments to us Indians, and we are now aſsembled to give you our answer. Brothers. I Shall now speak in answer to what You Said Yesterday, as it is out of my Power to explain the whole, there are only Six Nations from our Quarter that are Aſsembled here, and they are the whole that have to answer you at Presenent. —

Brothers, I now know the Contents of all the busineſs we are upon concerning the Lands and it has entered to the bottom of my heart. Brothers, the Comparison you made with Respect to the War the Wyandots had with a powerful Nation of Indians was a true one for it was once the Case. —

Brothers. It is very true that the Lands were once in poſseſsion of us Wyandots, and there was several that at that time had no land and we gave them land to sit down upon. Brothers, the Comparison you made yesterday is all very right and you are not Unacquainted with it. therefore we hope you will take pity upon us Indians & follow the Same rule. —

Brothers, We should be very happy if you could remove a little upon this side the Line and leave us a Small proportion of Land. as You know that we Indians are a poor helpleſs set of People.

Brothers, You Mentioned to us Yesterday that if we wish'd to have War, we should have it. but that is far from our wish, We do not desire any thing of the Land in this World, &c: it is much against the will of our God We are sorry that You mentioned it as we came here for peace and to Establish friendship with You. —

Brothers.

We do not wish to speak of war with you as we did not come here to make it with you, We came here only to Settle all Complaints, that were made Concerning the Lands and we hope this Affair is now finished. Believe me Brothers. I shall neve come again as long as this World shall stand to renew this Business Brothers, I told you just now that I would never return again upon the Same Business we are now About, I hope that You'll comply with our request of removing Your line a little way. You likewise told us that You would put the Agreement for our hunting in your Articles, we hope you will do so, that our Young men may hunt with Safety. —

A Black & White String

Brothers, We have a few words more to Speak to you that is us Wyandots and our Nephews the Delawares and likewise the rest of our Brethren which now Contains Seven different Nations, with the Six Nations we hope now the business is Compleated and finished and peace will ensue, we wish to Speak a few words with You Concerning trade. —

Brothers.

You have promised to us Indians

that if the good business could be finished in a proper manner according to your wishes, that you assist us to get goods cheaper than what they are, and if you do this your Brothers will thank you very kindly for it.

Brothers,

It is this we would wish you to do. Your people in General are very fond of Racoons, we would be very happy if you would take two Racoons for one Buck. Another thing I have to mention to you. It is the Common Custom to take a Buck Skin for a Buck, but there is one evil attends it that is if the Buck has not Ears to it, they will not take it for a Buck, We suppose from this that the Ears are of great Value.

A White String

This is all the Indians have to Say to you, you may include us all the Six different Nations.

There are two things I forgot to mention that is, that a bear Skin should be equal to two Bucks, and I would wish that a Blacksmith Should be Established here to repair our rifles Tomahawks and other Utensils, Gratis,

8th. & 9th.

Employed in preparing the treaties 10th. got thro' the Signing with the Wyandots, Delawares, Chippewas, Ottawas, Pottowatamies and Sacs in part — 11th. finished the Signing with them and the Six Nations, Gave up two prisoners those whom the Wyandots had Mentioned.

The Corn planter

Father.

All Nations of Indians desired this fire to be Kindled, and we would wish that it may terminate well.

I now tell You that what is now done at this Council fire has been done Strong, We will hold it so and Keep firm to the Great Business.

Our hands are now firmly closed with yours and Whatever strikes at the one to shed Blood will be felt by both, if any person has an intention to do You harm you must tell me of it that I may be ready to assist if any danger should appear. Whenever You have heard something of this Kind, You will tell me of it that I may be able to assist you in time.

Father,

The reason that I entered into the War before was that I was decoyed into it by the King of England it was not by my own desire, it was for want of Knowing how things were, I now hope that it is over, and that you will tell me when any thing of that Kind is like to happen again.

We will if consulted stand together with you and be one people, that if any thing should be about to happen either with me or the other, we may consult together and act Accordingly.

Do not deceive us if you think we are like to fall tell us plainly and then we Shall know what to do.–

We now the Six Nations acquaint You that our Opinion is, we are one people, and we will live as Such and Unite ourselves like Children to a Father. **Father.** now that we are Settled in the Midst of you, you will have pity on us, and if we Should want Cloathing you will supply us, We Shall see You upon our Lands and they will be planted with Corn & we will be hunting Deer, we shall also plant Corn, we Shall want our hoes & other Articles mended & for that purpose we would wish to have a Blacksmith Settled amongst us upon the land that we have now agreed to live upon with our Brothers. —

You will remember that a few days ago. We gave you the Belt of friendship, and desired You to hold it fast, We now remind you of what we Said then & hope that it will not be forgotten by either of us. —

We then told you that we would Speak no more to you upon Wampum. Father this is all we have to Say.

Brothers. the Indians here present.

There is a practice among you of buying and selling prisoners, this is a thing that was never known among the Indian Nations Before, We have now made peace and become one people with the Americans, how can we expect the peace will last if we buy & Sell one another like Beasts.

Brothers, This practice must be done away the Six Nations were never guilty of it.

A String to the Wyandots &c.

January 11th. —

Brothers. We have now Settled all our busineſs except what regards the hostages, and it is now so late in the Evening we will defer that untill tomorrow when you will meet me at my Quarters and we will finish it, I hope every cause of Uneasineſs is removed from your minds, We have renewed the peace & friendship that was entered into at Fort Stanwix and Fort Mc. Intosh. and these Belts one of which I give the Six Nations and the other to the Wyandots for them and the other Nations, will serve to keep you in mind of Every thing that has been done here, and of what was said upon the Great Peace Belts you received at those places. One Copy of the treaty you will keep that You may have it always at hand to refer to whenever it is neceſsary, the other I will send to Congreſs to be there preserved, I fervently pray to the Great God that the peace we have Established may be perpetual, that he will be pleased to bless the Good Works we have been about, and to extend to your Nations the Glorious light of the Gosple of peace & the Blessings of Civilzation, that they may increase and prosper, that he will Grant us to live in Unity like Brothers, and that our Children may Grow up and flourish like the Young trees, and there be none to make them afraid, —

As I Shall not meet you again in Council I will now take my leave intending to return to the Grand Council of the United States, as soon as possible where I shall make a favorable report of your temper & disposition, to morrow or the day after as You chuse the goods shall be — Delivered,

I have also to inform you that the United States have given to the Moravian Indians the Towns upon the Muskingum Where they formerly resided with the lands laying about them, which I Shall order to be laid out for them as soon as the season will admit and I Should be glad that Some of your people would attend the Surveyors.

One Matter more I have to observe to you There are several of the Nations to the westward who are continually doing Mischief to our people in the Country below, hitherto the injuries that have been done, have been resented by the people themselves, But the United States will not sit Still and see their people murdered. & if their force is drawn out against those Nations which it certainly will be if they persist in their Evil practices. they must fall. _ But that is not all the Sparks will fly about and many hurt You, for when the white people follow Indians who have Struck them. them may fall in with others who had no hand in it, in Woods. and they cannot ditinguish and so a War that neither of us wish for may be brought on. It therefore behoves you to use your best endeavours to oblige those people to be at peace.

Brothers.

A Mistake that was made in sending on to me a quantity of Black wampum instead of white has prevented me from having new Belts upon this Occasion. Those that I have now given to You will Keep every thing in your minds untill I can get the proper ones made, and early in the Spring I will send them forward to the Wyandots for all the Nations.

Brothers. I bid You farewell.

Secret

[1789?]

Whereas it appears by a confidential letter to his Ex: the Governor that Congress hath appointed commissioners to negotiate a peace ~~and a~~ with the late hostile tribes of Indians, and Whereas there is reason to believe that such commissioners will have it in charge to negociate a cession of territory on the part of the Indians to the united States, agreeably to the act of Congress of the 15th day of October last And whereas the tract of Country described in the said act, to be ceded to the united States is in the whole or in part claimed by such of the said hostile Indians, commonly known by the appellation of the Six nations Whereas by who ~~are now resident within this State~~ ~~and also~~ by divers treaties, and Contracts heretofore made with the Government of the late Colony, now State of New York, the said Six nations did put themselves under the protection of the said Government and ~~are~~ ~~became members thereof and are still~~

SCHUY[illegible] PAPERS

their rights were accordingly guarded and protected not only by the operation of the said Government but by the legislature thereof and have since the said treaties & compacts been considered as members of the land in ~~any~~ now state of New York, — And Whereas by the 9th Article of the Articles of Confederation and perpetual union between the united States of America, It is declared that the united States in Congress assembled shall have the sole and exclusive right and power of regulating the trade and managing all affairs with the Indians not members of any of the states —

And Whereas the permitting any persons whatever ~~[illegible]~~ (other than such as may be authorized by the legislature) to negotiate any cession of lands ~~with~~ by the said Indians may materially affect the sovereignty and interest of the ~~State~~ people of this state

Resolved therefore (If the Hon'd Assembly concur) That His Excellency the Governor do not permit ~~the said~~ any commissioners on the part of the united States or of any

State or Power whatsoever, to hold any Conference or negociate any cession of Country ~~by and~~ from or to the said Indians, ~~and~~ without the express permission of the Legislature, and that His said Excellency be ~~he~~ and he is hereby requested to take order in the premisses —

Resolved further that as soon as his Ex: the Governor shall be informed either by Congress the Delegates of this State In Congress or by any commissioners on the part of Congress that any such treaty as aforesaid is to be negociated with the said Indians, or any of them, that he remonstrate in behalf of the people of this State against the same, as contrary to the articles of Confederation aforesaid and in direct violation of the Sovereignty rights and powers of the people of this State

Relative to a treaty
proposed by
Congress

And Simeon De Witt two of the subscribing Witnesses who being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God declared that the names of Peter Ryckman and Simeon De Witt hereto subscribed as Witnesses are of their respective Hand writing, & that they were present and saw the Indians, Parties to this Deed, and who are Sachems and Chief Warriors of the Oneyda and Tuscarora Nations, sign ~~and~~ Seal ~~and~~ execute and deliver this Instrument as and for their Voluntary Act and for the uses and purposes therein mentioned (excepting Cornelius & Ohoniota and Paul Tewasgwadeghkon) and that they also saw the other Witnesses sign their names as Witnesses, and I having Examined the same and finding no Erazures Obliterations or Interlineations (except such as are noted do allow the same to be Recorded Jer. Lansingh

The aforegoing Indian Deed is a true Copy of the Original ~~thereof~~ Examined and Compared with the said Original this 7th day of July 1785 By me (in page 148 between the fourteenth and fifteenth lines the word "And" being interlined, and in this page 150 in line the Ninth the word "and" next before and after the word Seal is obliterated) Robt Harpur D. Secry

At a Treaty held at Fort Schuyler formerly called Fort Stanwix in the State of New York by his Excellency Ge Clinton Governor of the said State, and William Floyd, L'Hommedieu, Richard Varick, Samuel Jones, Eg Benson and Peter Gansevoort Junior [illegible] missioners

[illegible] purpose for and on behalf of the People of the Sta
of New York with the Tribe or Nation of Indians called the On
dagoes, it is on the twelfth day of September in the year o
thousand seven hundred and eighty eight covenanted
and concluded as follows — First the Onondagoes Do
cede and Grant all their Lands to the People of the State
of New York forever. — Secondly the Onondagoes shall
of the said ceded Lands hold to themselves and their poste
rity forever for their own Use and cultivation, but not
to be sold leased or in any other manner aliened or
disposed of to others All that Tract of Land Beginning
at the southerly end of the Salt Lake at the place where
the River or Stream on which the Onondagoes now have
their Village empties into the said Lake, and runs from
the said place of Beginning East three Miles, thence
southerly according to the general course of the said
River until it shall intersect a Line running East
and West at the distance of three Miles south from the
Village, thence from the said point of intersection West nine
miles thence northerly parallel to the second course
above mentioned until an East Line will strike
the place of Beginning, and thence East to the said
place of Beginning. Thirdly the Onondagoes and their
posterity forever shall enjoy the free right of hunting in
every part of the said ceded Lands and of fishing in all
the Waters within the same. Fourthly the Salt Lake and
the Lands for one mile round the same shall forever
remain for the common Benefit of the People of the State
of New York and of the Onondagoes and their poster
for the purpose of making Salt, and shall not be granted
or in any wise disposed of for other purposes — Fifthly
in consideration of the said Cession and Grant the
People of the State of New York Do at this Treaty pay to the

Onondagoes one thousand French Crowns in Money and two hundred pounds in clothing at the price which the same cost the People of the State of New York (the receipt of which Money and Clothing the Onondagoes do now acknowledge) and the People of the State of New York shall annually pay to the Onondagoes and their posterity forever on the first day of June in every Year at Fort Schuyler aforesaid five hundred dollars in Silver, but if the Onondagoes or their posterity shall at any time hereafter elect that the whole or any part of the said five hundred Dollars shall be paid in Clothing or provisions and give six Weeks previous Notice thereof to the Governor of the said State [illegible]. for the time being, then so much of the annual payment shall for that time be in Clothing or provisions as the Onondagoes or their Posterity shall elect and at the price which the same shall cost the People of the State of New York at Fort Schuyler aforesaid — Sixthly the People of the State of New York may in such manner as they shall deem proper, prevent any persons except the Onondagoes, from residing or setting on the Lands so to be held by the Onondagoes and their Posterity for their Own Use and Cultivation. And if any persons shall without the consent of the People of the State of New York, come to reside or settle on the said Lands or on any other of the Lands so ceded as aforesaid, the Onondagoes and their posterity shall forthwith give notice of such Intruders to the Governor of the said State for the time being, And further the Onondagoes and their posterity forever shall at the request of the Governor of the said State be aiding to the people of the State of New York in removing such intruders and in apprehending not only such intruders but also Felons and other Offenders who may be on the said ceded Lands, to the End that such intruders and other Offenders may be brought to Justice.

In Testimony whereof as well the Sachems Chief Warriors and others of the said Onondagoes in behalf of their Tribe or Nation as the said Governor and other Commissioners on behalf of the people of the State of New York have hereunto interchangeably set their hands and affixed their seals the day and Year first above written. —

Kahiktoton — his mark (LS)
Tenojishkeaiyea his mark (LS) Bear
[illegible]ahsetongwhhe by [illegible] Chief of the Clan his mark (LS)
[illegible]anaghtelegea his mark (LS)
[illegible]gighkwayewa by his Cousin his mark (LS)
Skawadaiyo his mark (LS) Deer
Kaiondayo By his Brother his mark (LS)
[illegible]Sondonquas his mark (LS)
Tranesaanhkwa by the Chief of the Clan his mark (LS) Eel
Kanoenewe his mark (LS)
Kianoenizhe his mark (LS) Governess
Keghkewa her mark (LS)

Tehonwaghstonwaghte . . his mark (LS)
Shagoyenawaghskwe his mark (LS)
Kanadaes — — — — — his mark (LS)
Sagoeyones — — — — his mark (LS) Turtle
Sagosaiewas by the Chief of the Clan his mark (LS)
Kanadakeawaghte his mark (LS)
Atahsweandaahsea — his mark (LS) Beaver
[illegible]aahshaine by the Chief of the Clan his mark (LS)
Tehoonawalaongh — — — — his mark (LS)
Sha[illegible]shaa[illegible] by the Chief of the Clan his mark (LS) [illegible]
Onoewlegthte by the Chief of the Clan his mark (LS)
(LS)

Geo: Clinton (LS) Wm: Floyd (LS) Ezra L'Hommedieu (LS) Rich: Varick (LS) Samuel Jones (LS) Egbt: Benson (LS) Peter Gansevoort Junr: (LS). Witnesses Present Simeon De Witt Survr: Genl: Louis his mark [illegible]yadeghkaronyeah of the Oneidas. Chief Governments of the Senecas Kayendatsona her mark. Senecas, Shagodyadyeastha his mark Kanoweantho. his mark [illegible]yghgwatet his mark. Shcanoewa his mark. Shagokanyos his mark. Cayugas, Kanegniqwe his mark Haghsouthiya his mark. Sam: Kirkland [illegible] P. Peniel. Sam: Latham [illegible] Nicholas Jourdain, W[illegible]wrath. Friedrich Fox. Abrm: [illegible]ood. Be it Remembred [illegible] the Month of December in the [illegible] our Lord one thousand se[illegible] hundred and Eighty Eight [illegible] appeared before me [illegible] Yates Esquire one of the Judges [illegible] Supreme Court of Judi[illegible] of the State of New York the Rev[illegible] Kirkland Indian [illegible]ary and Interpreter and Sam[illegible]tchell [illegible] the

First day of January one thousand seven hundred and Eighty nine Simeon De Witt who being severally and respectively sworn depose and that they were respectively present & saw the several Indians whose names are wrote opposite to their respective Seals and also the several Commissioners within named seal sign and deliver the within Instrument as their voluntary Act and Deed for the uses therein mentioned and that they severally subscribed their names thereto as Witnesses to the Execution thereof. And said Samuel Kirkland farther deposed and saith that previous to the Execution of the said Deed he truly and faithfully interpreted the same to the said Indians — from the English thereof. And I having examined the said Instrument and finding therein no Razure Interlineations or Obliterations other than those interpreted and made before its Execution. Do allow the same to be recorded. Robert Yates.

The aforegoing Instrument is a true copy of the Original (Words from the said 18th line page 151, and word Intrusions 26th line page 152 being at first written on Razures. And in page 152 line 6 words of New York being at first obliterated and word said interlined) Compared therewith By Me.

Lewis A. Scott. Secretary

At a Treaty held at Fort Schuyler formerly called Fort Stanwix in the State of New York By His Excellency George Clinton Governor of the said State, and William Floyd, Ezra L'Hommedieu, Richard Varick, Samuel Jones, Egbert Benson and Peter Gansevoort Junior (Commissioners authorized for that purpose by and on behalf of the People of the State of New York) with the Tribe or nation of Indians called the Oneidas, It is on the twenty second day of September in the Year one th[illegible]nd seven hundred and Eig[illegible] covenanted & con[illegible] as follows. — First the [illegible] Do Cede and [illegible] All their [illegible] the P[illegible]

First day of January one thousand seven hundred and Eighty nine Simeon De Witt who being severally and respectively sworn depose and that they were respectively present & saw the several Indians whose names are wrote opposite to their respective Seals and also the several Commissioners within named severally Seal and deliver the within Instrument as their voluntary Act and Deed for the uses therein mentioned and that they severally subscribed their names thereto as Witnesses to the Execution thereof. And said Samuel Kirkland farther deposeth and saith that previous to the Execution of the said Deed he truly and faithfully interpreted the same to the said Indians — from the English thereof. And I having examined the said Instrument and finding therein no Razure Interlineations or Obliterations other than those interpreted and made before its Execution. Do allow the same to be recorded. Robert Yates.

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At a Treaty held at Fort Schuyler formerly called Fort Stanwix in the State of New York By His Excellency George Clinton Governor of the said State, and William Floyd, Ezra L'Hommedieu, Richard Varick, Samuel Jones, Egbert Benson and Peter Ganse[illegible] Junior. (Commissioners authorized for that purpose by and on behalf of the People of the State of New York) with the Tribe or nation of Indians ca[illegible]d the Oneidas, It is on the twenty second day of Septem[illegible] in the Year one th[illegible]nd seven hundred and Eig[illegible] covenanted & con[illegible] as follows. — First the Do Cede and G[illegible] All their [illegible] the P

New York forever. — Secondly of the said ceded Lands wing Tract to wit Beginning at the Wood Creek opposite to the Mouth of the Canada Creek and where the Line of property comes to the said Wood Creek and runs thence Southerly to the Northwest Corner of the Tract to be granted to John Francis Perache thence along the westerly Bounds of the said Tract to the South West Corner thereof thence to the North West corner of the Tract granted to James Dean thence along the Westerly Bounds thereof to the South West Corner of the last mentioned Tract thence due South until it intersects a due West line from the head of the Tienaderha or Unadilla River — thence from the said Point of intersection due West until the deep Spring bears due North, thence due North to the deep Spring thence the nearest Course to the Canceserage Creek and thence along the said Creek the Oneida Lake and the Wood Creek to the place of Beginning shall be reserved for the following several Uses that is to say. The Lands lying to the Northward of a line parallel to the Southern Line of the said reserved Lands and four miles distant from the said Southern Line the Oneidas shall hold to themselves and their posterity forever for their own Use and Cultivation but not to be sold leased or in any other manner aliened or disposed of to others. The Oneidas may from time to time forever make Leases of the Lands between the said parallel lines (being the residue of the said reserved s) to such persons and on such Rents reserved as they deem proper but no lease shall be for a longer Term twenty One Years from the making thereof and no new hall be made until the former Lease of the same Lands have expired. The Rents shall be to the Use of the Oneidas their Posterity forever. And the People of the State of New= hall from time to time make provision by Law to compel es to pay the Rents and in every other respect to enable neidas and their Posterity to have the full Benefit of

Their Right so to make Leases and to prevent frauds on them respecting the same. And the Oneidas and their posterity forever shall enjoy the free right of hunting in every part of the said ceded Lands and of fishing in all the Waters within the same and especially there shall forever remain warranted in the People of the State of New York one half mile square at the distance of every six Miles of the Lands along the Northern Bounds of the Oneida Lake one half mile in Breadth of the Lands on each side of the Fish Creek and a convenient piece of Land at the fishing place in the Onondago River about three miles from where it issues out of the Oneida Lake and to remain as well for the Oneidas and their posterity as for the Inhabitants of the said State to land and encamp on but notwithstanding any reservation to the Oneidas the People of the State of New York may erect public Works and Edifices as they shall think proper at such place and places at or near the Confluence of the Wood Creek and the Oneida Lake as they shall elect and may take and appropriate for such Works or Buildings Lands to the Extent of one square Mile at each place. And further notwithstanding any Reservations of Lands to the Oneidas for their own Use the New England Indians (now settled at Brotherton under the pastoral care of the Reverend Samson Occom) and their posterity forever and the Stockbridge Indians and their posterity forever, are to enjoy their Settlements on the Lands heretofore given to them by the Oneidas for that purpose, That is to say a Tract of two miles in Breadth and three miles in length for the New England Indians, and a Tract of Six Mile square for the Stockbridge Indians. Thirdly in Consideration of the said Cession and [illegible] the People of the State of New York Do at this Treaty pay [illegible] neidas two thousand dollars in money, two thousand do[illegible]

Clothing and other Goods and one thousand dollars in provisions and also five hundred dollars in money to be applied towards building a Grist Mill and Saw Mill at their Village (the Receipt of which Moneys Clothing and Goods and provisions the Oneidas Do now acknowledge) and the People of the State of New York shall annually pay to the Oneidas and their posterity forever on the first day of June in every Year at Fort Schuyler aforesaid six hundred dollars in Silver, but if the Oneidas or their posterity shall at any time hereafter elect that the whole or any part of the said six hundred dollars shall be paid in Clothing or Provisions and give six weeks previous notice thereof to the Governor of the said State for the time being then so much of the annual payment shall for that time be in Clothing or provisions as the Oneidas and their posterity shall elect, and at the price which the same shall cost the people of the State of New York at Fort Schuyler aforesaid and as a further consideration to the Oneidas the People of the State of New York shall grant to the said John Francis Perache a Tract of Land Beginning in the line of property at a certain Cedar Tree near the Road leading to Oneida and runs from the said Cedar Tree southerly along the line of property two miles then westerly at Right Angles to the said Line of Property, two miles, then northerly at Right Angles to the last Course two Miles and then to the place of Beginning, which the said John Francis Perache hath consented to accept from the Oneidas in satisfaction for an injury done to him by one of their Nation. And further the Lands intended by the Oneidas for John T. Kirkland and for George W. Kirkland being now appropriated to the Use of the Oneidas the People of the State of New York shall therefore by a Grant of other lands make compensation to the said John T. Kirkland and George W. Kirkland. And further that the People of the State of New York shall as a Benevolence from the Oneidas [illegible] return for Services rendered by him

To their Nation grant to the said Peter Penet of the said ceded Lands lying to the Northward of the Oneida Lake an amount of ten Miles square wherever he shall elect the same. — Fourthly the People of the State of New York may in such manner as they shall deem proper prevent any persons except the Oneidas from residing or settling on the Lands so to be held by the Oneidas and their posterity for their own Use and Cultivation and if any persons shall without the consent of the People of the State of New York come to reside or settle on the said Lands or on any other of the Lands so ceded as aforesaid except the Lands whereof the Oneidas may make Leases as aforesaid, the Oneidas and their posterity shall forthwith give notice of such intrusions to the Governor of the said State for the time being. And further the Oneidas and their posterity forever shall at the request of the Governor of the said State be aiding to the People of the State of New York in removing all such intruders and in apprehending not only such Intruders but also Felons and other Offenders who may happen to be on the said ceded Lands to the End that such Intruders — Felons and other Offenders may be brought to Justice. — In Testimony whereof as well the Sachems Chief Warriors and others of the said Oneidas in behalf of their Tribe or Nation as the said Governor and other Commissioners of the People of the State of New York have hereunto interchangeably set their hands and affixed their Seals the day & year first above written. Odaghseghte his X mark (L.S.) Kanaghsweasa his X mark (L.S.) Peter Otsiquette (L.S.) Thaghniyongo his X mark (L.S.) Thonisweaghsnale his X mark (L.S.) Tekeandyakhon his X mark (L.S.) Ojistalale alias Granyurre his X mark (L.S.) Otetogon his X mark (L.S.) Toyohagweanda his X mark (L.S.) Oneyanha alias Beech Tree his X mark (L.S.) Thaghneghtolis alias Hendrick his X mark (L.S.) Shonoughleyo alias Anthony his X mark (L.S.) Thaghtaghquisea his X mark (L.S.) Kanandiloght his X mark (L.S.) Gaghsaweda [illegible] (L.S.) Teaghsweanaroloris alias James his X mark (L.S.) Aowelentonquinas alias [illegible] Peter his X mark [illegible]

Tone Skisnea alias Daniel her X mark (LS) Thaniyeandagayon his X mark (LS) Alauristonis alias Blacksmith his X mark (LS) Keanyako alias David his X mark (LS) — Thakitotan his X mark (LS) Sacoyontha his X mark (LS) Hannah Sodolk her X mark (LS) Teyouarnihath Konwagalet her X mark (LS) Kaskonghgwea Kanwagalet her X mark (LS) Kononuwayele her X mark (LS) Geo: Clinton (LS) Wm. Floyd (LS) Ezra L'Hommedieu (LS) Richd. Varick (LS) Samuel Jones (LS) Egbert Benson (LS) Peter Gansevoort Junr. (LS) Skenondongh his X mark (LS).

Witnesses present. The Words [and the Stockbridge Indians and their posterity forever] after the third word in the last line of the second Article and also the Words [For the New England Indians and a Tract of six miles square for the Stockbridge Indians] at the End of the same line and also the words [Two thousand dollars in money] in the first Line of the third Article, and the words [Except the Lands whereof the Indians may make Leases as aforesaid] in the third Line of the fourth Article being first interlined. Before the Execution hereof the Oneidas in public Council declared to the Commissioners that they had in Return for his frequent good Offices to them given to John I. Becker of the Lands reserved for their own Use one mile square adjoining to the Lands of James Dean and requested the same might be granted and confirmed to him by the State. Sam: Kirkland Missy. & Interpreter. B. Chr. Dest. Erys. Abrm. Rosencrant. Simeon De Witt Survr. Genl. Sam: Latham Mitchill John Taylor. Wm. Colbrath. Be it Remembred that in the Month of December in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Eighty Eight personally appeared before me Robert Yates Esquire one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Judicature of the State of New York, the Revd. Samuel Kirkland Indian Missionary and Interpreter and Samuel Mitchel, and on the first day of January one thousand seven hundred and Eighty Nine Simeon De Witt, who being severally and respectively sworn depose and say that they were respectively present and saw the several Indians whose names

Are wrote opposite to their respective Seals and also the several Commissioners within named severally seal and deliver – the within Instrument as their voluntary Act & Deed for the Uses therein mentioned; And that they severally subscribed their names thereto as Witnesses to the Execution thereof and saw the other subscribing Witnesses set their Names – thereto for the same purpose. And the said Samuel Kirkland farther deposeth & saith that previous to the Execution of the said Deed, he truly and faithfully interpreted the – same to the said Indians from the English into the Indian Language, and from such Interpretation they well understood the Contents thereof. And I having examined the said Instrument and finding therein no Razures Interlineations or obliterations other than those made and interpreted before its Execution. Do allow the same to be recorded.

Robert Yates.

The aforegoing Instrument is a true Copy of the Original (word to between 26th and 27th lines page 156 and Words People of the between 3d and 4th lines of page 158 being at first interlined. Word or 9th line page 157 and Word Blacksmith 2d line page 159 being at first written on Razures) Compared therewith By Me. –

Lewis A. Scott Secretary.

At a Treaty held in the City of Albany in the State of New York by His Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the said State, the Honorable Pierre Van Cortlandt Esquire Lieutenant Governor of the said State, Ezra L'Hommedieu Abraham Ten Broeck, John Hathorn, Samuel Jones Peter Gansevoort Junior and Egbert Benson Esquires (Commissioners authorized for that purpose by and on behalf of the People of the State of New York) with several of the Sachems Chiefs and Warriors of the Tribe or Nation of Indians

page 51

Treaty of Fort
Harmar
9th Jan.y 1789
with 6 nations

rec.d from War office
9 May 1797

#16

Articles of a Treaty made at Fort Harmar the ninth day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty nine between Arthur St. Clair Esquire Governor of the Territory of the united States of America north west of the River Ohio, and Commissioner plenipotentiary of the said united States for removing all Causes of Controversy, regulating Trade and settling Boundaries between the Indian Nations in the northern Department and the said united States of the one Part, and the Sachems and Warriors of the six Nations of the other Part. viz.

Article first Whereas the united States in Congress assembled did by their Commissioners Oliver Woolcot, Richard Butler and Arthur Lee Esquires duly appointed for that purpose at a Treaty held with the said six Nations viz with the Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas Tuscaroras Cayugas and Senecas, at Fort Stanwix on the twenty second day of October, one thousand seven hundred and eighty four, give Peace to the said Nations, and receive them into their Friendship and Protection: And whereas the said Nations have now agreed to and with the said Arthur St. Clair to renew and confirm all the Engagements and Stipulations entered into at the before mentioned Treaty at Fort Stanwix: And whereas it was then and there agreed between the united States of America and the said six Nations that a Boundary Line should be fixed between the Lands of the said six Nations and the Territory of the said United States, which Boundary Line is as follows viz. Beginning at the mouth of a Creek about four Miles east of Niagara called Ononwayea or Johnsons Landing place upon the Lake named by the Indians Oswego, and by us Ontario, from thence southerly in a direction always four Miles east of the carrying Place between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario to the mouth of Tehoseroton or Buffaloe Creek upon Lake Erie, thence south to the northern Boundary of the State of Pennsylvania thence west to the end of the said north Boundary; thence south along the west Boundary of the said State to the River Ohio. The said Line from the Mouth of Ononwayea to the Ohio shall be the western Boundary of the Lands of the six Nations, so that the six Nations shall and do yield to the united States all Claim to the Country west of the said Boundary, and then they shall be secured in the possession of the Lands they inhabit east north and south of the same, reserving only six Miles square round the Fort of Oswego for the support of the same." The said six Nations except the Mohawks none of whom have attended at this time for and in consideration of the Peace then granted to them, the Presents they then received, as well as in consideration of a Quantity of Goods to the value of three thousand Dollars now delivered to them by the said Arthur St. Clair same" The said Six Nations except the Mohawks none of whom have attended at this time for and in consideration of the Peace then granted to them, the Presents they then received, as well as in consideration of a Quantity of Goods to the value of three thousand Dollars now delivered to them by the said Arthur St. Clair the receipt whereof they do hereby acknowledge, do hereby renew and confirm the said Boundary Line in the words before mentioned to the end that it may be and remain as a ~~De~~ Division Line between the ~~said six~~ Lands of the said Six Nations and the Territory of the United States forever. And the under signed Indians as well in their own Names as in the Name of their respective Tribes and Nations their Heirs and Descendants for the considerations before mentioned do release, quit claim relinquish and cede to the United States of America all the Lands west of the said Boundary or division Line and between the said Line and the Strait from the mouth of Ononawayga and Buffaloe Creek for them the said United States of America to Have and to Hold the same in true and absolute Propriety for ever.

Article Second

The United States of America confirm to the six Nations all the Lands which they inhabit lying East and North of the before mentioned Boundary Line and relinquish and quit claim to the same and every part thereof excepting only six Miles square round the Fort of Oswego, which six Miles square round said Fort is again reserved to the United States by these Presents.

Article Third

The Oneida and Tuscarora Nations are also again secured and confirmed in the possession of their respective Lands.

Article fourth

The United States of America renew and confirm the Peace and Friendship entered into with the six Nations (except the Mohawks) at the Treaty before mentioned held at Fort Stanwix declaring the same to be perpetual — And if the Mohawks shall within six Months declare their assent to the same they shall be considered as included.

Done at Fort Harmar on the Muskingum the day and Year first above written In Witness whereof the Parties have hereunto interchangeably set their Hands and Seals

Ar. St. Clair

Cageaga
or
Dogs round the fire.

Gyantwaia
or
Cornplanter +

Sawedowa

Done at Fort Harmar on the Muskingham the day and Year first above written In Witness whereof the Parties have hereunto interchangeably set their Hands and Seals

Ar. St. Clair

In presence of.

Jos. Harmar
Lt. Col. Comd. 1st U.S. Regt.
Brigr. General by Brevet

Richard Butler

Jno. Gibson

Wm. McCurdy Capt.

E. Denny Ens. 1st U.S. Regt.

A. Hartshorn Ensn.

Robt. Thompson Ens. 1 U.S. Regt.

Fran. Luse Ens.

Joseph Nicholas

Cageaga or Dogs round the fire.

Sawedowa or The Blast.

Kiondushowa or Swimming Fish.

Oncahye or Dancing Feather.

Sohaeas or Falling mountain.

Otachsaka + or Broken Tomahawk

Tekahias + or Long Tree.

Onechsetee or Loaded man +

Kiahtulaho or Snake.

Aqueia or Bandy Legs.

Kiandogewa or Big Tree +

Owenewa + or Thrown in the water.

Gyantwaia + or Cornplanter.

Gyasota or Big Cross +

Kanassee or New arrow.

Achiout or Half Town.

Anachout X or The Wasp

Chishekoa + or Wood Bug.

Sessewa or Big bale of a kettle

Sciahowa or Council Keeper.

Tewanias or Broken Twig

Sonachshowa or Full moon.

Cachunwasse or Twenty Canoes.

Hickonquash or Tearing asunder.

52

6th Baker's [illegible] Turner

[illegible]

7 Jan [illegible]

Rec.d from the War office
9 May 1797.

The National Archives of the United States

The following are the Names of the Hostages left at Fort Harmar agreeably to the first Article—

Wyandots
Cheweye
Oatasy
Tehamendaye
Tayanoquay
Homehoneatoo
Chipewa Aquaywesias

SEPARATE ARTICLE [82]

Should a Robbery or Murder be committed by an Indian or Indians of the said Nations upon the Citizens or Subjects of the united States or any of them or by the Citizens or Subjects of the united States or any of them upon any Indian or Indians of the said Nations the Parties accused of the same shall be tried, and if found guilty be punished according to the Laws of the State, or of the Territory of the united States as the case may be, where the same was committed: And should any Horses be stolen either by the Indians of the said Nations from the Citizens or Subjects of the united States or any of them, or by any of the said Citizens and Subjects from any of the said Indians they may be reclaimed into whose Possession soever they may have come, and upon due proof shall be restored any Sales in open Market notwithstanding and the Parties convicted shall be punished with the utmost Severity the Laws will admit: And the said Nations engage to deliver the Parties that may be accused of their Nations, of either of the before mentioned Crimes at the nearest Post of the united States if the Crime was committed within the Territory of the united States, or to the Civil Authority of the State, if it shall have happened within any of the united States.

Ar St Clair

[*Endorsed*] Treaty January 1789

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[78] An officer of the Pennsylvania line in the Revolution; brigadier general, 1783; major general U. S. levies, 1791; killed in action, Nov. 4, 1791 (Heitman, *Reg. Cont. Army*, p. 111).

[79] In command of western frontier troops at the close of the Revolution. In 1800 he was appointed Secretary of the Territory of Indiana, which position he held until the admission of the Territory into the Union (*Pa. Archs.*, 2 ser., IV, 68).

[80] Of Pennsylvania; captain Continental Army, 1781, and of U. S. Infantry, 1784–1791 (Heitman, *Reg. Cont. Army*, p. 276).

[81] Ebenezer Denny, with Harmar's regiment in the West, 1784–1787; captain U. S. Infantry, 1791; author of "Military Journal of Major Ebenezer Denny", *Memoirs Hist. Soc. Pa.*, VII, 207–409.

[82] This article is written on a separate paper and is in St. Clair's hand.

Note from Mr. Stagg
accompanying the Treaty
concluded at Fort Harmar
between Gov. St. Clair & the 6
Nations — on 9 Jany 1789

recd 9 May 1797.

CHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES

War-Office, May 9th 1797.

John Stagg jun: presents his compliments to Mr. Taylor, and tranſmits him, to be depoſited in the office of the depart:ment of State, the original treaty held by General St. Clair with the ſix Nations of indians, at Fort Harmar 9. Jany. 1789.

Separate Article

Should a Robbery or Murder be committed by an Indian or Indians of the six Nations upon the Citizens or Subjects of the United States or by the Citizens or Subjects of the United States or any of them upon any of the Indians of the said Nations the Parties accused of the same shall be tried and if found Guilty be punished according to the Laws of the State, or of the Territory of the United States as the case may be where the same was committed. And should any Horses be stolen either by the Indians of the said Nations from the Citizens or subjects of the United States or any of them or by any of the said Citizens or Subjects from any of the said Indians they may be reclaimed into whose Possession soever they may have come and upon due proof shall be restored any sale in open Market notwithstanding, and the Persons convicted shall be punished with the utmost severity the Laws will admit. And the said Nations engage to deliver the Persons that may be accused of their Nations of either of the before mentioned Crimes at the nearest Post of the United States if the Crime was committed within the Territory of the United States, or to the civil Authority of the State ~~where~~ if it shall have been committed within any of the United States.

Ar. St. Clair

Extracts from a Treaty held at Fort Harmar between Arthur St Clair Governor of the Territory of the United States North West of the Ohio, and the Sachems &c of the Wyandats, Delaware, Ottawa, Chippewa Pattawat -ma, & Sac Nations January 9th 1789

Agreed between the United States and said Nations a Boundary Line should be fixed between the of those Nations, and the Territory of the United States. Which Boundary is as follows Viz Beginning at the mouth of Cayahaga River and Running thence up the said River to the Portage between that and the Tuscarora Branch of the Muskingum thence down the said Branch to the Forks at the Crossing Place above Fort Laurance thence westerly to the Portage on th of the Big Miami River ~~that~~ which runs into the Ohi the mouth of Which Branch the Fort Stood which was taken by the French in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & fifty two: Then along the said Portage to the Great Miami or Omie River and down the South East side of the same to its mouth, thence " along the South shore of Lake Erie to the mouth of Cayahaga where it began

" The United States of America do by these presents relinquish and quit Claim to the said Nations respectively all the Lands lying between the limits above described for them " the said Indians to live and hunt upon and otherwise to Occupy as they shall see fit. But the said Nations or either of them shall not be at Liberty to sell or dispose

" of the Same or any Part thereof to any Sovereign Power
" Except the United States, nor to the Subjects or Citizens of
" any other Sovereign Power nor to the Subjects or Citizens of
" the United States.

Reservations made by the united States ~~Viz~~
for the Establishments of Trading Posts Viz.

" Six miles Square at the mouth of the miami or Omi
" River Six miles Square at the Portage upon that River
" Branch of the Miami which runs into the Ohio. Six
" miles Square upon the Lake Sandusky where the fort
" formerly Stood, and two miles Square upon Each Side
" the Lower Rapids on Sandusky River, which Posts & the
" Lands Annexed to them shall be for the use and under the
" Government of the united States

" The Post at Detroit with a District of Land beginning at
" the mouth of the River Rosine at the west End of Lake Erie
" and running up the Southern Branch of Said River Six miles
" thence Notherly and always Six Miles West of the Strait
" until it Strikes Lake St Clair: shall be Reserved for the
" United States.

" In Like manner the Post at Michelimackinac with
" its dependencies and Twelve miles Square about the
" Same Shall be reserved for the Sole use of the United
" States.

" And whereas in describing the Boundary before
" mentioned the words if Strictly Constructed would Carry
" it from the Portage on that Branch of the Miami which
" Runs into the Ohio over to the River Au Glaize, which
" was neither the Intention of the Indians nor of the
" Commissioners, it is hereby declared that the Line shall
" Run from the said Portage directly to the first Fork of the

Miami

" Miame River which is to the Southward & Eastward of
" the Miami Village thence down the main Branch
" of the Miami River to the said Village, and thence down
" that River to Lake Erie and along the Margin of the Lake
" to the Place of beginning)

Signed By Arthur St Clair, and Twenty fou
& witnessed by Genl Harmer and Eleven Other Officers

— Few of those Indians who signed were the principal
Chiefs and those not Authorised by there Nations
to dispose of the Country. they say they never
intended to do it and did not Suppose they were
signing at Instrument for that Purpose — Deyentia
a Wyondot has been Accused of Prevaling on those
did Sign to do it
Capt Brant the Shawanese Delawares & most of
the Principal Chiefs Refused to attend or have
any thing to do with this Treaty)

1882

[illegible]

FILMED IN SECTIONS

Articles of a Treaty made at Fort Harmar the ninth day of January in the [illegible] our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Eighty n
of the Territory of the United States of America north west of the River Ohio and Commissioner Plenipotentiary of the said united Sta
Controversy, regulating Trade and settling Boundaries between the Indians in the nor[illegible] department and the said States of the One Part a
the Six Nations of the other Part viz — Article First — Whereas the united States in Congress Assembled did by their Comm
Butler and Arthur Lee Esq.rs duly Appointed for that Purpose at a Treaty held with the said six Nations viz. with the Mohawks Oneyd
Cayugas and Senecas at Fort Stanwix on the Twenty Second day of October one thousand seven hundred and eighty four give
and receive them into their Friendship and Protection and whereas the said Nations have now agreed to and with the said Arthur
all the Engagements and Stipulations entered into at the before mentioned Treaty at Fort Stanwix, and whereas it was then and there a
of America and the said Six Nations that a Boundary line should be fixed between the Lands of the said Six Nations and the Territory of the
line is as follows viz. Beginning at the mouth of a Creek [illegible] about four miles east of Niagara called Onon wayea or Johnsons Landing Place
Indians Oswego and by us Ontario, from thence Southerly in a direction always four miles east of the carrying Place between Lake Erie a
of Toshowe or Buffaloe Creek upon Lake Erie, thence South to the northern Boundary of the State of Pennsylvania, thence west
boundary, thence south along the west boundary of the said State to the River Ohio the said line from the Mouth of Onon
western boundary of the Lands of the Six Nations, so that the Six Nations shall and do yield to the united States all claim
said boundary and then they shall be secured in the possession of their Lands they inhabit, east, north, and South, of the same,
round the Fort of Oswego for the support of the same. The said Six Nations except the Mohawks none of whom atte
Consideration of the Peace then granted them the presents they then received as well as in consideration of a Quantity of goods to
now delivered to them by the said Arthur St. Clair the receipt whereof they do hereby acknowledge do hereby renew and Confirm
words before mentioned to the end that the same may be and remain as a division line between the Lands of the said Six Nations and the United Sta
Except as well in their own Names as in the Name of their respective Tribes and Nations, their Heirs and descendants for the Conside
Quit claim relinquish and cede to the united States of America all the Lands West of the said boundary or division line and betwe
Strait from the Mouth of Onon wayea and Buffaloe Creek for them the said United States of America to have a
and absolute property for ever. Article the Second — The united States of America Confirm to the Six Nations all the
east and North of the before mentioned boundary line and relinquish and quit claim to every Part thereof excepting only Six mi
Oswego, which six miles square round the said Fort is again reserved to the united States by these Presents — Article t
Nations are also again secured and Confirmed in the Possession of their [illegible] [illegible] States of
The [illegible]

eaty made at Fort Harmer [illegible] ninth day of January in the [illegible] of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Eighty nine between Arthur St. Clair Govern

States of America north west of the River Ohio and [illegible] Commissioner Plenipotentiary of the said united States, for removing all Cause of

de and settling Boundaries between the Indians in the nor[illegible] department and the said States of the One Part and the Sachems and Warriors of

Part viz — Article first — Whereas the united States in Congress Assembled did by their Commissioners Oliver Wolcott, Richard

Esq.rs duly Appointed for that Purpose at a Treaty held with the said six Nations viz. with the Mohawks, Oneydas, Onondagas, Tuscaroras —

Fort Stanwix on the Twenty Second day of October One thousand seven hundred and eighty four give Peace to the said Nations

Friendship and Protection and whereas the said Nation have now agreed to and with the said Arthur St. Clair to renew and Confirm

ulations entered in

the before mentioned Treaty at Fort Stanwix, and whereas it was then and there agreed between the united States

Nations that a Bou

should be fixed between the Lands of the said Six Nations and the Territory of the said united States, which boundary

ning at the mouth

Creek about four miles east of Niagara called Oyonwayea or Johnsons Landing Place upon the Lake named by the

ntario, from thence s

in a direction always four miles east of the Carrying Place between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario to the mouth

eek upon Lake E

thence South to the northern Boundary of the State of Pennsylvania, thence west to the end of the said nor

long the west

of the said State to the River Ohio the said line from the Mouth of Oyonwayea to the Ohio shall be the

Lands of the Six

that the Six Nations shall and do yield to the united States all claims to the Country west of the

they shall be

in the Possession of their Lands they inhabit, east, north, and South of the same, reserving only six miles Square

for the Support

the same. The said Six Nations except the Mohawks none of whom attended at this time, for and in

then granted the

presents them received as well as in consideration of a Quantity of goods to the value of three thousand dollars

the said Arti

Clair the receipt whereof they do hereby acknowledge do hereby renew and Confirm the said boundary line in the

the end that the same.

remain as a division line between the Lands of the said Six Nations and the United States for ever and the undersigned

Nations as in the

their respective Tribes and Nations, their Heirs and descendants for the Considerations beforementioned do release

and Cede to the united States of America all the Lands West of the said boundary or division line and between the said line and the

of Oyonwayea and Buffaloe Creek for them the said United States of America to have and to hold the same in free

for ever. Article the Second — The United States of America Confirm to the Six Nations all the lands which they inhabit lying

mentioned boundary line and relinquish and quit claim to every Part thereof excepting only six miles Square round the Fort of

les Square round the said Fort is again reserved to the united States by these Presents — Article third — The Oneida and Tuscarora

secured and Confirmed in the Possession of their respective lands — Article 4th [illegible]

the ent[illegible]

FILMED IN SECTIONS

everything and relinquish and quit claim to every Part thereof excepting only Six m [illegible] Nations all the

Oswego, which Six miles Square round the said Fort is again reserved to the United States by these Presents — Article

Nations are also again Secured and Confirmed in the Possession of their respective lands — Article 4th The United States of

the Peace and Friendship entered into with the said Six Nations except the Mohawks at the Treaty before men

the same to be perpetual, and if the Mohawks shall within [illegible] declare their Assent to the same they shall

Signed

Ar. St. Clair (S)

Done at Fort Harmar on the Muskingum the day and Year

Whereof the Parties have hereunto interchangeably set their

In presence of —

Jos. Harmar Lt. Col. Comg 1st US Regt.
Brigd Genl by Brevet —
Richard Butler
Jno. Gibson
Willm McCurdy Capt.
E. Denny Ens. 1st U.S. Regt.
A. Hartshorn Ensign
Robert Thompson Ens. 1st U.S. Regt.
Francis Luse Ens.
Joseph Nicholas —

Cageaga or Dogs round the Fire (S)
Sawedowa or the Blast — (S)
Kiondushowa or the Swimming Fish — (S)
Oncahye or dancing Feather (S)
Sohaeas or falling Mountain (S)
Otachsaka or broken Tomahawk (S)
Tekahias or long Tree — (S)
Oneseechte or loaded Man — (S)
Kiahtulaho or Snake — (S)
Aqueia or Bandy Legs — (S)
Kiandogewa or Big Tree (S)
Owenewa or thrown in the Water (S)
Gyantwayia or the Corn Plant — (S)
Gyasota or the Big Cross — (S)
Kanassee or New Arrow — (S)
Achkiout or half Town — (S)
Anachkout or the Wasp — (S)
Chishekoa or Wood Bug — (S)
Sessewa or Big Bale of a Kettle

[illegible] confirm to the Six Nations all the lands which they inhabit [illegible] in three

[illegible] anything and relinquish and quit claim to every Part thereof excepting only Six miles Square round the Fort of O

square round the said Fort is again reserved to the United States by these Presents — Article third — The Oneida and Tuscarora

[illegible] confirmed in the Possession of their respective lands — Article 4th The United States of America renew and confirm

entered into with the said Six Nations except the Mohawks — at the Treaty before mentioned at Fort Stanwix, date

[illegible] of the Mohawks [illegible] declare their Assent to the same they shall be considered as included —

Done at Fort Harmar on the Muskingum the day and Year first above written in Witness whereof the Parties have hereunto interchangeably set their Hands & Seals

ds Regt.

FILMED IN SECTIONS

Cageaga or
und the Fire (S)

owa or the
—— (S)

ushowa or the
ming Fish — (S)

ye or Dancing Feather (S)

s or Falling Mountain (S)

ka or Broken Tomahawk (S)

as or Long Tree —— (S)

ke or [illegible] Man —— (S)

utaho or Snake —— (S)

ueia or Blue Sky —— (S)

andogewa or Big Tree (S)

enewa or Thrown in the Water (S)

yantwaia or the Corn Plan = (S)

Gyasota or the Big Cross — (S)

Kanassee or New Arrow —— (S)

Achiout or half Town —— (S)

Anachout or the Wasp —— (S)

Chishekoa or Wood Bug —

Sessewa or Big Bale of a Kettle

[illegible] or big tree (S)
Ooreneiwe or thrown in the Water (S)
Sqantwagia or the Corn Planter (S)
Cyanlto or the Big Crop — (S)
Thanassee or New Arrow — (S)
Ashkuiel or half Town — (S)
Anach Kout or in Wash — (S)
Chuskikoa or Wood Bug —
Seuwa or Big Bea the Kettle —
Secawkowa or council Keeper — (S)
Tuuanias or broken Tooth — (S)
Sonachshowa — or full moon — (S)
Calunwasse or Twenty Ear — (S)
Theushunguach or Tearing at Deer (S) —

Lt

of a Treaty held at Fort
armer on the Muskingum
th Jany. 1789 between some
hiefs of Six Nations & Arthur
St. Clair &ca

1789

Extract from the articles of a Treaty made at Fort Harmar the ninth day of January in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and eighty nine between Arthur St Clair, Governor of the Territory of the United States of America, north west of the river Ohio & Commissary Plenipotentiary of the said United States, for removing all cause of controversy, regulating trade & settling boundaries between the Indians in the northern department of the said United States of the one part, & the Sachems & warriors of the Six Nations of the other part.

viz.

Whereas the United States in congress assembled, did by their commissioners, Oliver Wolcot, Richard Butler, & Auther Lee, Esquires, duly appointed for that purhose, at a treaty held with the said six Nations, viz, with the Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Tuscarroras, Cayugas & Senecas at Fort Stannix on the 22nd day of October one thousand seven hundred & eighty four give peace to the said nations & receive them into their friendship and protection; and whereas, the said nations have now agreed to and with the said Arthur St. Clair to name & confirm all the engagements

& stipulations entered into at the before mentioned treaty at Fort Stanwix: and whereas, it was then & there agreed between the United States of America & the said six nations that a boundary line should be fixed between the lands of the said six nations & the territory of the said United States, which boundary line is as follows, viz, beginning at the mouth of a creek about four miles east of Niagara called Ononwayea or Johnsons Landing place upon the Lake named by the Indians Oswego and by us Ontario, from thence Southerly in a direction always four miles east of the carrying place between Lake Erie, and Lake Ontario to the mouth of Tehoseroton or Buffalo creek, upon Lake Erie, thence south to the northern boundary of the State of Pennsylvania, thence west to the end of the said north boundary, thence south along the west boundary of the said State to the river Ohio.

The said line from the mouth of Ononwayea to the Ohio shall be the western boundary of the lands of the six nations, shall & do yield to the United States all claim to the country west of the said boundary & then they shall be secured in the possession of the lands they inhabit, east, north & south of the same, reserving only six miles square round the Fort of Owego for the support of the same" The said Six Nations (except the Mohawks none of whom have attended at this time) for & in consideration of the Peace then granted to them, the presents they then received, as well as in consideration of a quantity of goods, to the value of three thousand dollars now delivered to them by the said Arthur St. Clair, the receipt whereof they do hereby acknowledge, do hereby renew & confirm the said Boundary line in the words before mentioned, to the end that the same may be and remain as a Division Line between the lands of the said Six Nations and the Territory of the United States for ever.

And the under signed Indians as well in their own names as in the name of their respective Tribes and Nations, their Heirs & Descendants, for the considerations before mentioned do release, quit claim, relinquish and cede to the United States of America all the Lands west of the said Boundary or division Line and between the said line & the strait from the mouth of Ononwayea and Buffalo creek for them, the said United States of America, to have and to hold the same in true & absolute Property for ever.

Article Second.

The United States of America confirm to the Six Nations all the lands which they inhabit lying east and north of the before mentioned boundary line and relinquish and quit claim to the same and every part thereof excepting only six miles square round the Fort of Oswego, which six miles square round said Fort is again reserved to the United States by these Present.

Article third.

The Oneida and Tuscarora Nations are also again secured and confirmed in the possession of their respective lands.

Article fourth.

The United States of America renew & confirm the Peace & friendship entered into with the Six Nations (except the Mohawks) at the treaty before mentioned at Fort Stanwix declaring the same to be perpetual, and if the Mohawks shall within six months declare their assent to the same, they shall be considered as included.

1789.

Done at Fort Harmar on the Muskingham the day and year first above written. In witness thereof the Parties have hereunto interchangeably set their hands and seals.

Ar St Clair

In presence of
Jos. Harmar,
Lt. Col. Com. 1st U.S. Regt.
Brigr. General by Brevet,
Richard Butler,
Jno. Gibson,
& others.

And on the Indian part
twenty four seals to which
Cornplanter & other names are affixed
effaced in Indian
or
Dogs around the fire
Sawedowa
Kiondushowa
or
Swimming Fish
Oneahye
or
Dancing feather
Soahaes
or
Falling Mountain
Broken or Tomahawk
Long or Fire
Onewehtie
Gyantwakia
Cornplanter
Gysasota,
Big or Cross
Kanassee
New or Arrow

Achiout
half or Town
Irome defaced
or
Wood Big
Sessewa
or
Big Bal of a kettle
Sciain hoa
Council or Keeper
Tewanias
or
Broken Twig
Sonachshowa
Full or Moon
Twenty or Canoes
Tearing or Asunder
Four fellow
whose names are
now effaced.

Articles of a Treaty made at Fort Harmar, between Arthur St. Clair Governor of the Territory of the United States, North West of the river Ohio, and Commissioner Plenipotentiary of the United States of America for removing all causes of Controversy; Regulating trade Settling Boundaries with the Indian Nations in the Nothern Department, of the one part and the Sachems and Warriors of the Wyandot, Delaware, Ottowa Chippewa, Pottawatamie and Sac Nations on the other part.—

Article 1st. Whereas. the United States in Congress Assembled, did by their Commissioners, George Rogers Clarke, Richard Butler, and Arthur Lee Esquires, duly appointed for that purpose; At a Treaty holden with the Wyandot, Delaware, Ottowa & Chippiwa Nations at Fort McIntosh on the Twenty first day of January in the Year of our Lord one Thousand Seven hundred and Eighty five; Conclude a peace with the Wyandots, Delawares, Ottowas, & Chippiwas, And take them into their friendship and protection, and Whereas at the Said treaty it was stipulated that all prisoners that had been made by those Nations, or either of them, should be delivered up to the United States, and Whereas the Said Nations have now agreed to, and with the aforesaid Arthur St. Clair to renew and confirm all the engagements They had made with the United States of America, at the before mentioned Treaty, except so far as are altered by these presents and there are now in the possession of Some Individuals of these Nations, certain prisoners, who have been taken by others not in peace with the Said United States, or in Violation of the Treaties subsisting Between the United States and them, the said Nations agree to Deliver up all the prisoners now in their hands (by What means soever they may have come into their possession) to the Said Governor St Clair at Fort Harmer, or in his Absence to the Officer commanding there; as soon as conveniently may be. And for the true performance of this agreement they do now agree to deliver into his hands two Persons of the Wyandot Nation to be retained in the hands of the United States as hostages, untill the Said prisoners are restored; After which they Shall be sent back to their Nation.

Article 2. And Whereas, at the beforementioned treaty, it was agreed between the United States and Said Nations, that a Boundary Line should be fixed between the Lands of those Nations and the Territory of the United States, which Boundary is as follows Viz: Beginning at the mouth of Cayahoga river and running thence up the Said river to the Portage between that and the Tuscarora Branch of Muskingum, then down the said Branch to the Forks at the Crossing place above Fort Lawrence, thence Westerly to the Portage on that Branch of the big Miami River, which runs into the Ohio at the Mouth of which Branch the Fort Stood, which was taken by the french in the Year of our Lord one Thousand seven hundred and fifty two; Then along the Said portage to the great Miami, or Omie river, and down the South East Side of the Same to its mouth, thence along the South Shore of Lake Erie, to the Mouth of Cayahaga, where it began. And the Said Wyandot, Delaware, Ottowa, & Chippiwa Nations for and in consideration of the peace then granted to them by the Said United States and the presents they then received, as well, as of a Quantity of Goods to the Value of Six thousand Dollars now Delivered to them by the Said Arthur St Clair, the receipt whereof they do hereby acknowledge; do by these presents renew and Confirm the Said Boundary Line; to the End that the Same may remain as a division Line Between the Lands of the United States of America, and the Lands of the Said Nations for Ever. and the undersigned Indians do hereby in their own names and the Names of their respective Nations & Tribes, their heirs and Descendants, for the Consideration above mentioned, release quit Claim, relinquish and Cede to the Said United States, all the Land, East, South, and West of the Lines above described so far as the Said Indians formerly claimed the Same; for them, the United States, to have and to hold. in true and absolute propriety for ever.

Article 3d The United States of America do by these presents relinquish and quit Claim to the Said Nations respectively, all the Lands lying between the Limits above described for them the Said Indians to live and hunt upon and otherwise to occupy as they shall see fit. But the Said Nations or either of them shall not be at Liberty to sell or dispose of the Same or any part thereof to any Sovereign power, except the United States, nor to the Subjects or Citizens of any other Sovereign Power, nor to the Subjects or Citizens of the United States. —

Article 4th. It is agreed between the said United States, and the Said Nations, that the Individuals of Said Nations shall be at Liberty to hunt within the Territory ceded to the United States, without hindrance or Molestation, so long as they Demean themselves peaceably and offer no injury or annoyance to any of the Subjects or Citizens of the Said United States. —

5th. It is agreed that if any Indian or Indians of the Nations beforementioned shall commit a Murder or robbery on any of the Citizens of the United States, the Nation or tribe to which the Offender belongs on complaint being made shall deliver up the person or persons complained of at the nearest post of the United States, to the end that he or they may be tried: and if found Guilty punished according to the Laws established in the Territory of the United States North west of the river Ohio, for the punishment of such offences, if the Same shall have been committed within the Said Territory, or according to the Laws of State where the offence may have been committed, if the Same has happened in any of the United States, In like manner if any Subject or Citizen of the United States shall commit murder or robbery on any Indian or

Indians of the Said Nations; upon complaint being made thereof, he, or, they shall be arrested, tried and punished agreeable to the Laws of the State, or of the Territory wherein the Offence was committed, that Nothing may interrupt the peace and harmony now Established Between the United States, and Said Nations.

Article 6th. And Whereas the practice of Stealing horses has prevailed very much to the Great disquiet of the Citizens of the United States, and if persisted in cannot fail both, the United States of America, and the Indians, in endless animosity, it is agreed, that it shall be put an entire stop to on both Sides; Nevertheless should some Individuals in defiance of this agreement and of the Laws provided against such offences, continue to make depredations of that nature, the person convicted thereof shall be punished with the utmost severity the Laws of the respective States, or Territory of the United States, Northwest of the Ohio, where the Offence may have been committed will admit of, And all horses so stolen either by the Indians from the Citizens or Subjects of the United States, or by the Citizens or Subjects of the United States from any of the Indian Nations, may be reclaimed into whose possession soever they may have passed, & upon due proof shall be restored, any sales in market overt, Notwithstanding, And the Civil Magistrates in the United States respectively, and in the territory of the United States, Northwest of the Ohio, shall give all necessary aid and protection to Indians claiming such stolen horses.

rticle 7th. Trade shall be opened with the said Nations, and they do hereby respectively engage to afford protection to the persons and property of such as may be duly licensed to reside among them for the purposes of trade, and to their Agents, Factors & Servants. but no person shall be permitted to reside at their Towns or at their hunting Camps as a Trader who is not furnished with a license for that purpose, under the hand and Seal of the Governor of the Territory of the United States North west of the Ohio for the time being. or under the hand and Seal of one of his Deputies for the management of Indian affairs, to the end that they may not be imposed upon in their traffick, and if any person or persons shall intrude themselves without such Licence they promise to apprehend him or them & to bring them to the said Governor, or one of his Deputies for the purpose beforementioned, to be dealt with according to Law. and that they may be defended against persons who might attempt to forge such Licences, they further engage to give information to the said Governor or one of his Deputies, of the Names of all Traders residing among them, from time to time, and at least once in every Year.

8th. Should any Nation of Indians meditate a war against the United States or either of them, and the same shall come to the knowledge of the before mentioned Nations or either of them, they do hereby engage to give immediate Notice thereof to the Governor, or in his absence to the Officer Commanding the troops of the United States at the Nearest post. and should any Nation with hostile intentions against the United States or either of them attempt to pass this their Country they will endeavour to prevent the same and in like manner give information of such attempt to the said Governor or Commanding Officer as soon as possible, that all causes of mistrust and Suspicion may be avoided between them and the United States, in like manner the United States shall give Notice to the said Indian Nations of any harm that may be meditated against them or either of them that shall come to their Knowledge and do all in their Power to hinder and prevent the Same that friendship between them may be uninterrupted. ——

Article 9th. If any person or persons. Citizens or Subjects of the United States, or any other person not being an Indian, shall presume to settle upon the Lands confirmed to the said Nations, he and they shall be out of the protection of the United States, and the said Nations may punish him or them in such manner as they shall see fit. ——

10th. The United States renew the reservation heretofore made in the beforementioned Treaty at Fort Mc. Intosh for the Establishment of Trading posts in manner and form following; That is to say, Six Miles Square at the mouth of the Miamie or Omie River; Six Miles square at the portage upon that branch of the Miami which runs into the Ohio. Six Miles square upon the Lake Sandusky where the Fort formerly stood, and two miles Square upon each side the Lower Rapids on Sandusky river which posts, and the Lands annexed to them shall be for the use and under the Government of the United States.

Article 11th. The post of Detroit with a District of Land beginning at the mouth of the river Rosine, at the west end of the Lake Erie and running up the Southern Bank of said River Six Miles, thence Notherly and always Six miles west of the strait, untill it strikes the Lake St. Clair shall be reserved for the use of the United States.

12th. In like manner the post at Michilimackinac with its Dependencies and twelve miles Square about the same Shall be reserved to the sole use of the United States.

13th. The United States of America do hereby renew & confirm the peace and friendship entered into with the said Nations at the treaty beforementioned held at Fort McIntosh and the said Nations again acknowledge themselves and all their Tribes to be under the protection of the said United States and no other power whatever.

14th. The United States of America do also receive into their friendship and protection the Nations of the Pottawatamies and Sacs, and do hereby Establish a League of peace and amity Between them respectively and all the Articles of this treaty so far as they apply to these Nations are to be considered as made and Concluded in all and every part expressly with them and each of them. —

Article 15th. And Whereas in describing the Boundary beforementioned, the Words if strictly constructed, would carry it from the portage on that branch of the Miami which runs into the Ohio, over to the River au Glaize, which was neither the intention of the Indians nor of the Commissioners, it is hereby declared that the Line shall run from the said portage directly to the first fork of the Miami River, which is to the Southward and Eastward of the Miami River. thence down the Main branch of the Miami River to the said Village and thence down that river to Lake Erie and along the Margin of the Lake to the place of beginning. —

Done at Fort Harmar on the Musking- this Ninth day of January in the Year of our Lord one thousand Seven hundred and Eighty nine; In Witness whereof the parties have hereunto interchangeably set their hands & Seals —

(Sign'd)

Konotikina
Tepakee
Keshewa

Nanamakeak
Witenasa
Soskine
Pewanakum
Messass
Paukquash

Tayendatontia
Chayawe
Dayentaet
Terhe
Terhatau
Dota Tory

(Sign'd)
Ar. St. Clair

In presence of

Joseph Harmar
Lt. Col. Comt. 1st U.S. Regt.
Brigr. Genl. by Brevit
Richard Butler

Jno. Gibson
Wm. McCurdy Captn.
El Denny Ens. 1st U.S. Regt.
A. Hartshorn Ensn.
Robert Thomson Ensn.
Thos. Luse Ensn.

J. Williams Junr.
Wm. Wilson
Joseph Nicholas
James Rinkin

Pawasicko ---
Weneskea ---
Neagey ---
Windigo ---
Wapaskea ---
Nequea ---
Mauderonk ---
Shahomat ---
Captn. Pipe ---
Wingenona ---
Pekelan ---
Pealaway ---

Be it Remenimbered that the Wyandots have laid Claim to the Lands that were granted to the Shawanese at the Treaty held at the Miami, and have declared that as the Shawanese have been so restless and Caused so much trouble, both to them, and to the United States, if they will not now be at peace, they will dispossess them, and take the

Country into their own hands, for that the Country is theirs of right, and the Shawanese are only living upon it by their permission, They further lay Claim to all the Country west of the Miami Boundary from the Village to the Lake Erie, and declare that it is now under their Management and direction.

Seperate Article

Whereas the Wyandots have represented that within the reservation from the River Risine along the Strait, they have two Villages from which they cannot with any convenience remove, it is agreed that they shall remain in possession of the same and shall not be in any maner disturbed therein.

Be it remembered by all whom it may concern That on the ninth day of January in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Eighty nine, in Open and Public Council, We the undersigned Chiefs Warriors and others representing the following named tribes of the Six Nations viz. for and in behalf of our Selves our tribes, our and their Heirs and Successors in the one part and Richard Butler, & John Gibson Esquires Commissioners for and in behalf of the State of Pensylvania (ones) on the other part did make, and conclude upon the following Articles viz.

Article 1st. That as soon as these articles are signed interchangeably by the aforesaid Chiefs and Commissioners the said Chiefs will execute a deed of Conveyance to the State of Pensylvania for a tract of Country as hereafter shall be described.

2d. The Signing Chiefs do acknowledge the right of Soil and Jurisdiction to, in, and over that tract of Country bounded on the South by the North line of the State of Pensylvania on the east by the West boundary of the State of New York agreeable to the Cession of that State and the State of Massachusets to the United States and on the North by the Margin of Lake Erie, including Presque_isle and all the bays and harbours along the Margin of said Lake Erie from the west boundary of Pensylvania to where the west boundary of the State of New York may Cross or intersect the south margin of the said Lake Erie, to be vested in the said state of Pensylvania agreeable to an act of Congress dated the sixth day of June last 1788.

3d. The said Chiefs do agree that the said state of Pensylvania shall and may at any time they may think proper Survey dispose of and Settle all that part of the afore said Country lying and being west of a line running along the middle of the Conewago river from its Confluence with the Alegany River into the Chadaghqua Lake thence along the Middle of the said Lake to the north end of the same, thence a Meridian Line from the north end of the said

Lake to the Margin or Shore of Lake Erie. —

Article 4th. The said Chiefs do agree that the Navigation or Water Communication of the said Conowaga river and the Chadaghqua Lake shall be free for the Citizens of the State of Pensylvania in common with themselves, but that neither party shall build or erect dams over or acroſs the Connowaga river so as to obstruct the paſsage of boats or canoes up or down the same to the Alegany river.

5th. That the Several Villages Belonging to the Signing Chiefs and their people are now living on the said Connowaga Creek and in other parts of the country supposed to be within the tract of Country west of the west line of the State of New York and east of the line through the Waters as described in the third Article, and as they have no Country to remove to from where they now live the said Chiefs do reserve for their own and their peoples residence, Hunting and fishing, all that part of the tract of country described in the second article, paſsing from the Alegany river along the middle of the Connowaga Creek, the Chadaghqua Lake and the Meridian line from the north end of said Lake to Lake Erie. —

6th. The said Chiefs do engage for and in behalf of themselves and their tribes to give protection to the Citizens of the said State of Pensylvania and others who may come to trade or transact Buſineſs under proper Authority among them and to live peaceably with all the Citizens of the United States. —

ticle 7th. The said Richard Butler and John Gibson Esquires Commissioners for and in behalf of the State of Pensylvania do agree to the aforesaid articles in their true intent and meaning, and they do further engage on the faith of the State of Pensylvania that the aforesaid Chiefs and the people of their tribes shall have full and peaceable Liberty to hunt and fish within any part of the country first above mentioned, they demeaning themselves peaceably towards the Inhabitants, but the said chiefs shall not at any time hereafter directly or indirectly lease, rent or make sale, of any part or parcel of the tract here reserved for their use and residence to any other State person or persons. —

In Testimony of the above Articles being duly, Openly and fairly agreed and Concluded upon the Chiefs and Commissioners aforesaid have interchangeably set their Hands and affixed their Seals the day and Year first above Written. —

In presence of

Ar. St. Clair
Joseph Harmar Lt. Col. Comdt. 1st US. Regt
Brigr. General by Brevet
David Zeigler Capt. 1st US. Regt.
Winthrop Sargeant
John Tracy
N. McDowell Ensr.
Jacob Morlher Cadet 1st US Regt.
Joseph Nicholas —

(Sign'd) Richard Butler - - - - - - -
Jno. Gibson - - - - - - - -
Sawedowah or the blast - - - - -
Kiondashowa or the swimming fish -
Oncahye or the dancing feather - -
Sohaes or falling mountain - - -
Otachsaka or broken Tomahawk - -
Tekahiefs or long tree - - - -
Onesechtee or the loaded man - -
Kiatulaho or the smoke - - -
Aquia or bandy legs - - -
Kiandoghgowa or big tree - - -
Ouawenah or thrown in the river - -
Gyantwachkla or the corn planter.
Gyasholta or the big Cross - - -
Kanassee or the new arrow - - -
Achiout or the half town - - -
Anachkout or the wasp - - - -
Chishekoa or the wood bug - - -
Sessewa or a big bole of a kettle - -
Sciahowa or the Council Keeper - -

Tusanias or the broken twig - - - -
Tanochskawa or the full moon - - -
Cachunnasse, or twenty canoes - - -
Hickhonquash, or tearing asunder -
Cogeaghgea, or goes about the fire - -

From Revision of Indian Treaties: Page 553. Article 13.

1/15 1838 Special Provisions for the Oneidas residing in the State of New York.

The United States will pay the sum of four thousand dollars, to be paid to Baptista Powlis, and the chiefs of the first Christian party residing at Oneida, and the sum of two thousand dollars shall be paid to William Day, and the chiefs of the Orchard party residing there, for expenses incurred and services rendered in securing the Green Bay country, and the settlement of a portion thereof; and they hereby agree to remove to their new homes in the Indian Territory as soon as they can make satisfactory arrangements with the governor of the State of New York for the purchase of their lands at Oneida.

1/19 1789. Page 924. Article 3. The Oneida and Tuscarora Nations are also again secured and confirmed in the possession of their respective lands.

1/21 1795. Page 925. Article 2. The United States acknowledge the lands reserved to the Oneida, Onondaga, and Cayuga Nations, in their respective treaties with the State of New York, and called their reservations, to be their property; and the United States will never claim the same, nor disturb them or either of the Six Nations, nor their Indian friends residing thereon and united with them, in the free use and enjoyment thereof; but the said reservations shall remain theirs until they choose to sell the same to the people of the United States, who have the right to purchase.

1/21 1795. Page 926. Article 4. The United States having thus described and acknowledged what lands belong to the Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas, and Senekas, and engaged never to claim the same, nor to disturb them, or any of the Six Nations, or their Indian friends residing thereon and united with them, in the free use and enjoyment thereof, now, the Six Nations, and each of them, hereby engage that they will never claim any other lands within the boundaries of the United States, nor ever disturb the people of the United States in the free use and enjoyment thereof.

Honorable the Legislature of the Stat
of New-York in Senate & Assembly conven
The Petition of James Bryan, in Behalf of him-
-self and his Associates in a Company for obtaining Land
from the western Indians known by the name of the Gene-
sea Company;

Humbly Sheweth

That your Petitioner & his Associates, fully sensible of the Odium under which they labour, and the many Aspersions thrown on them for their late Conduct in their Transactio in the Business, cannot but observe, that with Regard to the Company in General, this Odium, & these Aspersions are unjust and without foundation; as your Petitioners hope to Demonstrate. —

That your Petitioner, and some of his Associates receiving Intelligence in the Month of December 1786. that the Sd. Western Indians would Dispose of a Tract of their Lands lying on the Chemong, form'd a Company consisting of 21 Farmers, and procur'd Col. Benjamin Birdsall to find out the Disposition of said Indians. —

That your Petitioners did not conceive (from Council which they had been at the Cost & Expence of taking) that this enterprize would be opposed to the Constitution and Laws of this State, which had they supposed, they never would have proceeded therein. —

And the Prospect of increasing Expences render'd it necessary to enlarge the Number of Associates, by which mean the object became larger, & more general. —

That in September 1787. Agents were sent by the said Company, who when they arived in the Indian Territory found many Persons endeavouring to Procure their Lands, which if effected, might obstruct our object, and also in some measure frustrate the Wishes of the State which Consideration induced us to send on Agents to fairly extinguish the whole Indian Claim, if possible; but your Petitioners ever supposed it to be an Unanimous Determination of the Company, to Surrender all into the hands of Government, in order to make a merit of this Extinguishment, & having taken into Consideration the extraordinary Expences of Indian Treaties held by Government

fo That your Petitioners were induced to think
Purchase (so far from being discordant to the
-ments of the Legislature) would meet with the
-probation, and that your Petitioner & his Aſso
Would receive a generous Reward therefor. —
That on compleating the Bargain with the Sai
Indians, and at the very next meeting of the Leg
-lature, your Petitioner, & his Aſsociates, went so f
with their Original Deſign, and Intention, that th
were at the Expence of procuring a Petition (con
in respectful Terms) to be Drawn & sign'd by James
Bryan, for himself and his Aſsociates, to Attend th
Delivery, ~~of the~~ and Surrender of the Leases for the
Lands aforesaid. — That this Petition was actually D
and Sign'd accordingly, That it was actually Deliver'd
their Agent for the Purpose aforesaid. — —
But your Petitioner & his Aſsociates in General, to thei
Aſtoniſhment found that their Agent so far fro
complying with this Intention of your Petitioner and
his Aſsociates, in Stead of Delivering the aforesai
Petition, & Surrendring the said Leases, took such Ste
as your Petitioner, & his Aſsociates are constrain
to say, did not meet with their Approbation. —
That it was the earnest wish of your Petitioner and
his Aſsociates, that the Leases and Papers Shou
be Delivered into the Hands of the Honorable Comm
-sioners for Indian Affairs, previous to their
Treaty with the Indians the Last fall; and
that the most Zealous exertions were made
for that Purpose. —
That the original Leases, & Papers never have unti
the Aſsembling of the present Legislature been
in the Power or Poſseſsion of your Petitioner and
his Aſsociates, and that immediately upon the Re
-ceit of the Same, they were Shewn to his Excellency
the Governor, and (as soon as a Board of Commiſsio
-ers was form'd) they were Delivered to that honor-
able Board, in Obedience to a Resolution —

the honorable the Senate, at the Sessions of egislature the last year at Poughkeepsie. —

That notwithstanding all the embarrisments the Company have unfortunately labor,d under, which prevented the Negociations being of that Advantage to the State as was wished for, and intended Yet (Considering the Vast Expence by their Negociations with the Western Indians, in bringing them to a Disspossition to part with their Lands, and Suffer their Country to be opened by Settlements under this State, That from Negociations of your Petitioner, and his Associates, a very large and respectful Settlement upon the Lands whereof the Right of Preemption hath been lately Ceeded to this Commonwealth of Massachusetts is already begun, & rapidly going forward, to the Benefit of this State. — That a peaceful, harmonious intercourse, and friendship with the Natives appears to be well Established thereby; and that (in consequence thereof) the Vast Emigration of Citizens from this, and other of the united States into the British Dominions is principally Check,d. —

That your Petitioner & his Associates in prosecuting their object in Regard to said Country, were persuaded, that many Essential & important advantages would result to this State, by opening said Country for Settlement, and Securing Peace, & Harmony with the Natives. — These together with other Considerations induces us at this time to come forth — And altho' in the Beginning of this Address we acknowledge ourselves to be of the Company called the Genesea Company; Yet as it appears from the above Relation of facts that this is the first approach we have ever made to this Honorable Legislature with the true Sense of the Company, & as early as (in our apprehension) it was in our Power to have been of any Service, either to the State or to ourselves; we hope and believe that we Shall not be thought to be impertinent; But be treated as honest, well meaning Citizens of the State. —

48

and as many of our Associates have ex
nearly their whole Substance in this hon
Pursuit, in order to obtain farms for
-selves and Children, your Petitioner and h
Associates, humbly pray this honorable Leg
-lature to take it into their wise consideratio
and from their Justice & Clemency to grant
your Petitioner, and his Associates out of those
Lands such Compensation as they in their Wis
-dom Shall think proper

And your Petitioner as in duty boun
Shall ever pray.

James Bryan

The Petition of
James Bryan
No. 60 & his
Associates
In Senate February 21st 1789
Committed to Mr Williams Mr Clinton
& Mr Van Ness

49

Governor of the 15th Februy 1790

In Senate Februy 15th 1790
read & Committed to a Committee
of the whole

In Assembly Feby 16th 1790
Read and entered in the Journal.

Gentlemen

For your information I communicate with this message a report of the Commissioners for holding treaties with the Indians residing within this State

New York 15 February

Geo. Clinton

Letter from Gov.r Clinton dated Albany 14th July 1789.

" — we will never deceive or forſake our brethren the Oneidas, as long as they continue to walk in the path of Justice."

" We exhort you to ſobriety and industry, and to love one another, as you expect the bleſsings ~~of the~~ & protection of the Great Spirit" [N.B. The above written with the Gov.rs own hand.

Letter from the Governor to John Fry and others, the Chief Warriors of the Oneida Nation, dated Sept.r 12. 1789.

" Let me exhort you to ſobriety and industry, for it is this alone, by the bleſsing of the Great Spirit, that can ſecure to you comfort and happineſs."

Extracts from letters &c. from
the State Gov.r of New York
to the Oneidas — all signed
Geo. Clinton
July 14 } 1789
Sept 12 }

At a treaty held in the city of Albany in the ſtate of New-York, by his Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governour of the ſaid State, the Hon.ble Pierre Van Cortlandt Esquire Lieutenant Governour of the ſaid ſtate, Ezra L'Hommedieu, Abraham Ten Broeck, John Hathorn, Samuel Jones, Peter Gansevoort junior, and Egbert Benson Esquires ~~[illegible]~~ (Commiſsioners authorized for that purpose by and on behalf of the people of the ſtate of New-York) with ſeveral of the Sachems Chiefs and Warriors of the Tribe or Nation of Indians called the Cayugas, for and on behalf of the said Nation. It is on this twenty fifth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand ſeven hundred and eighty nine covenanted and concluded as follows.

Firſt. The Cayugas do cede and grant all their lands to the people of the ſtate of New-York forever.

Secondly. The Cayugas shall of the said ceded lands hold to themſelves & to their posterity forever for their own use and cultivation, but not to be ſold, leased, or in any other manner aliened or disposed of to others, all that tract of land beginning at the Cayuga Salt Spring on the Seneca river and running thence ſoutherly to interſect the middle of a line to be drawn from the outlet of Cayuga to the outlet of the Woskogh Lake and from the said place of intersection ſoutherly the general course of the eastern bank of the Cayuga lake thence westerly to interſect a line running on the weſt ſide of the Cayuga lake at the mean distance of three miles from the Western bank thereof and from the said point of intersection along the said line so running on the weſt ſide of the Cayuga lake to the Seneca river thence down the said river to the Cayuga lake thence through the said lake to the out let thereof thence further down the said Seneca river to the place of beginning so as to comprehend within the limits aforesaid and exclusive of the water of Cayuga Lake the quantity of one hundred ſquare miles. Also the place in the Seneca river at or near a place called Skayes where the Cayugas have heretofore taken eel and a competent piece of land on the ſouthern ſide of the river at the ſaid place ſufficient for the Cayugas to land and encamp on and to cure their eel. Excepted nevertheleſs out of the said land ſo reserved one mile ſquare at the Cayuga ferry. Thirdly The Cayugas and their poſterity forever shall enjoy the free right of hunting in every part of the said ceded lands and of fiſhing in all the waters within the ſame. Fourthly, In consideration of the said ceſsion and grant, the People of the ſtate of New-York do at this present treaty pay to the Cayugas five hundred dollars in ſilver (the receipt whereof the Cayugas do hereby acknowledge) and the people of the ſtate of New-York shall pay to the Cayugas on the firſt day of June next at Fort Schuyler formerly called fort Stanwix, the further ſum of one thouſand ſix hundred and twenty four dollars. And also the people of the ſtate of New York

Shall annually pay to the Cayugas and their poſterity forever on the firſt day of June in every year thereafter at fort Schuyler aforeſaid five hundred dollars in ſilver. But if the Cayugas or their poſterity shall at any time hereafter elect that the whole or any part of the ſaid annual Payment of five hundred dollars shall be paid in cloathing or proviſions and give ſix weeks previous notice thereof to the Governour of the said ſtate for the time being, then ſo much of the annual payment shall for that time be in cloathing or proviſions as the Cayugas or their poſterity shall elect, and at the price which the ſame shall coſt the people of the ſtate of New-York at Fort Schuyler aforeſaid. And as a farther consideration to the Cayugas, the people of the ſtate of New-York shall grant to their adopted Child, Peter Ryckman, whom they have expreſsed a deſire should reside near them to aſsiſt them, and as a benevolence from them the Cayugas to him and in return for ſervices rendered by him to their nation, the said tract of one mile ſquare at the Cayuga ferry, excepted out of the ſaid lands reserved to the Cayugas for their own use and cultivation. — That of a tract beginning on the weſt bank of the Seneka lake, thence running due weſt (paſsing one chain north of an house lately erected and now ~~occupied~~ in the occupation of the said Peter Ryckman) to the line of partition between this ſtate of New York and the commonwealth of Maſsachuſetts of the lands ceded to each other thence due ſouth along the said line of partition, thence due eaſt to the Seneca lake thence northerly along the bank of the said lake to the place of beginning ſo as to contain ſixteen thouſand acres, the people of the ſtate of New-York shall grant three hundred and twenty acres to a white person married to a daughter of a Cayuga named Thaniowes including the present ſettlement of the ſaid person on the ſouth ſide of Caghsion creek and that the people of the ſtate of New York shall grant the residue of the said tract of ſixteen thousand acres to the said Peter Ryckman.

Fifthly. The people of the ſtate of New York may at all times hereafter in ſuch manner and by ſuch means as they shall deem proper prevent any persons except the Cayugas and their adopted brethren the Paanese, from residing or settling on the lands to be held by the Cayugas & their poſterity for their own use and cultivation. And if any persons shall without the consent of the people of the ſtate of New-York come to reside or ſettle on the said lands or any other of the lands ſo ceded as aforesaid, the Cayugas and their poſterity shall forthwith give notice of such intruſions to the Governor of the ſaid State for the time being. And further the Cayugas & their poſterity forever shall at the requeſt of the Governor of the said State be aiding to the people of the ſtate of New-York, in removing all ſuch intruders,

intruders and apprehending not only such intruders, but felons and other offenders who may happen to be on the said ceded lands, to the end that ſuch intruders, felons and other offenders may be brought to juſtice. — Notwithſtanding the said reservation herein above ſpecified to the Cayugas, it is declared to be the intents of the parties, that the Cayuga called the Fish Carrier, ſhall have a mile ſquare of the said reserved lands for the seperate use of himſelf and for the seperate use of his family forever being his present ſettlement at the Old Orchard. In testimony whereof as well the Sachems, Chiefs, Warriors, Governeſses and others of the Cayugas in behalf of their tribe or nation, as the said Governor and other Commiſsioners on behalf of the people of the ſtate of New-York have hereunto interchangeably ſet their hands and affixed their ſeals, the day and year firſt above written.

Sealed and delivered
in the presence of
the words [quantity of]
[thereafter] [the] and [a]
being firſt interlined.

Before ſealing and delivery hereof it was for the greater certainty declared to be the intent of the parties that this grant and ceſsion is only of the lands eaſtward of the partition line above mentioned between this ſtate of New-York and the commonwealth of Maſsachusetts. And that with respect to ſuch parts of their country as is to the westward of the said partition line, the right and property of the Cayugas to be the ſame as if this grant and ceſsion had not been made. And the Cayuga ſalt ſpring and the land to the extent of one mile around the ſame to remain for the common use and benefit of the people of the ſtate of New York and of the Cayugas and their poſterity forever. And the land to be reserved at the Fiſhing place near Shayes shall be of the extent of one mile on each side of the river the above reservation of land on the ſouthern side of the river only notwithſtanding.

In presence of
Saml. Kirkland Miſs.y
Quedel Aquelondonqua ×
Onenyaha - - - ×
Jn.o Shenondong - - ×
Kahiktoton - - - ×
Haghyeando - - - ×
Myalonghalonqwea } ×
Lewis Cook }
Towaniaghaliſea } ×
Daniel }
Gilbert Livingſton
John Taylor
Ph. V. Cortlandt

Pierre Van Cortlandt ○
Abraham Ten Broeck ○
Ezra L'Hommedieu ○
John Hathorn - - ○
Samuel Jones - - ○
Peter Gansevort - - ○
Egbt. Benson - - ○

Signed also by
Twelve Indian Women
Fourteen Men.

Extract from a deed of cession executed by the Cayuga Nation of Indians to the State of New York — —

At a Treaty held in the City of Albany in the State of New York by his Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the said State the Hon.ble Pierre Van Cortlandt Esquire Lieutenant Governor of the said State Ezra L'Hommedieu Abraham Ten Broeck John Hathorn Samuel Jones Peter Gansevoort Jun.r and Egbert Benson Esquires Commissioners Authorised for the purpose by and on the behalf of the People of the State of New York with several of the Sachems Chiefs and Warriors of the Tribe or Nation of Indians called the Cayugas for and on behalf of the said Nation — It is on this Twenty fifth Day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty nine Covenanted and Concluded as follows ——

First the Cayugas do Cede and grant all their Lands to the People of the State of New York for ever — Secondly the Cayugas shall of the said Ceded Lands hold to themselves and their posterity forever for their own use and Cultivation but not to be sold or Leased or in any other Manner aliened or disposed of to others all that Tract of Land Beginning at the Cayuga Salt Springs on the Seneca River and running thence Southerly to intersect the middle of a Line to be drawn from the outlet of Cayuga to the outlet of Owasco Lake and from the said place of Intersection Southerly the general course of the Eastern Bank of the Cayuga Lake Thence Westerly to Intersect a Line running on the West side of the Cayuga Lake at the mean distance of three miles from the Western Bank thereof and from the said point of Intersection along the said so running Line on the west side of the Cayuga Lake to the Seneca River thence down the said River to the Cayuga Lake thence through the said Lake to the outlet thereof thence further down the said Seneca River to the place of Beginning so as to be [illegible] ection south [illegible]

River Thence down the said River to the Cayuga Lake thence through the said Lake to the outlet thereof thence further down the said Seneca River to the place of Beginning so as to Comprehend within the Limits aforesaid and exclusive of the waters of the Cayuga Lake the Quantity of one hundred Square Miles — Thirdly

[illegible] live

The third and fourth Articles contain stipulations not relative to the point in Question — — Fifthly The people of the State of New York may at all times in such manner and by such means as they shall deem proper prevent any person Except the Cayugas and their adopted brethern the Pawnees from residing or settling on the Lands to be held by the Cayugas and their posterity for their own use and Cultivation and if any person shall without the Consent of the people of the State of NewYork come to reside or settle on the said Lands or other of the Lands so ceded as aforesaid the Cayugas and their posterity shall forthwith give Notice of such Intrusions to the Governor of the said State for the time being And further the Cayugas and their posterity forever shall at the request of the Governor of the said State be aiding to the people of the State of NewYork in removing all such intrusions and apprehending not only such Intruders but Felons and other Offenders who may happen to be on the said ceded Lands to the end that such Intruders Felons and other Offenders may be brought to Justice

[illegible]
23th February 1789
at Albany

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TILDEN FOUNDATIONS
R 1913

In Testimony whereof as well the Sachoms, ~~Chief~~s, Warriors, Governesses and others of the Cayugas on behalf of their tribe of nation, as the said Governor and other Commissiomers on behalf of the People of the State of New York have hereunto interchangeably set their hands and affixed their seals the day and year first above written.

his
Thanaghtijaron X (L.S.)
mark

his
Tekanoeshage X (L.S.)
mark

his
Thahonghtoje (L.S.)
mark

his
Kananjae (L.S.)
mark

his
Attwanconine (L.S.)
mark

his
Gochge (L.S.)
mark

her
Tadenon (L.S.)
mark

her
Kowayadowoaghsta X (L.S.)
mark

her
Niggondi (L.S.)
mark

his
Karistagia (L.S.) Steeltrap.
mark

his
Hanoghtsjiyatha (L.S.)
mark

his
Anettyengos // (L.S.)
mark

his
Teyowandaghongh) (L.S.)
mark

his
Haonghgonthas X (L.S.)
mark

N.B. The above four signed by their chief, Steeltrap

his
Tewathanase) (L.S.)
mark

his
Twotyeanentha \ (L.S.)
mark

his
Ahageundyak + (L.S.)
mark

her
Tegawakhongh a (L.S.)
mark

N.B. The above four persons signed by Steeltrap as their Deputy.

her
Towatcanitha 6 (L.S.)
mark

her
Toweanse V (L.S.)
mark

her
Kaneghsayande / (L.S.)
mark

her
Kaweienissen f (L.S.)
mark

her
Swatteaa S (L.S.)
mark

her
Kaghnawiyo ~ (L.S.)
mark

her,
Kajoonkeneagh ∧
mark

her
Joghhechnoy // (L.S.)
mark

Pierre Van Cortlandt (L.S.)

Ezra L'Hommedieu (L.S.)

Abr. Ten Broeck (L.S.)

John Hathorn (L.S.)

Samuel Jones (L.S.)

Peter Gansevoort Junr. (L.S.)

Egbert Benson (L.S.)

Geo. Clinton (L.S.)

Signatures to Treaty with
Cayugas at Albany
Feby 25. 1789

1789
25th Feby

At a Treaty held in the City of Albany in the State of New York by His Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the said State, the Honorable Pierre Van-Cortland Esqr Lt. Governor of the said State, Ezra L'Hommedieu, Abraham Ten Broek, John Hathorn, Samuel Jones, Peter Gansevoort Junior and Egbert Benson Esquires, (Commissioners authorised for that purpose by and on behalf of the people of the State of New York) with Several of the Sachems, Chiefs and Warriors of the Tribe or Nation of Indians called the Cayugas, for and on behalf of the said Nation. It is on this Twenty fifth Day of February in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven hundred and Eighty Nine Covenanted and Concluded as follows;

First. The Cayugas do Cede and Grant all their Lands to the people of the State of New York forever.

Secondly. The Cayugas shall of the said ceded Lands hold to themselves and to their Posterity forever for their own use and Cultivation, but not to be sold leased or in any other manner aliened or disposed of to others all that tract of Land Beginning at the Cayuga Salt spring on the Seneca River and running thence Southerly to intersect the Middle of a Line to be drawn from the Outlet of Cayuga to the Outlet of Washington Lake and from the said place of Intersection souththerly to the General Course of the Eastern Bank of the Cayuga Lake thence Westerly to intersect a Line running on the West side of the Cayuga Lake at the mean Distance of three Miles from the Western Bank thereof and from the ſaid point of intersection along the said Line so running on the West side of the Cayuga Lake to the Seneca River, thence down the ſaid River to the Cahuga Lake, thence through the ſaid Lake to the Outlet thereof thence further down the ſaid Seneca River to the place of beginning so as to Comprehend within the Limits aforesaid and exclusive of the Water of Cayuga Lake the Quantity of one hundred Square Miles. Also the place in the Seneca River at or near a place called Skayes where the Cayugas have heretofore taken Eel, and a Competent peice of Land on the Southern Side of the River of the ſaid place sufficient for the Cayugas to land and encamp on and to Cure their Eel. Excepted nevertheleſs out of the ſaid Lands so reserved one Mile Square at the Cayuga Ferry.

Thirdly. the Cayugas and their Posterity forever shall enjoy the free Right of Hunting in every part of the said ceded Lands and of fishing in all the Waters within the Same.

Fourthly. In Consideration of the ſaid Ceſsion and Grant the people of the State of New York do at this present Treaty pay to the Cayugas five hundred Dollars in Silver the Receipt whereof the Cayugas do hereby acknowledge and the people of the State of New York shall pay to the Cayugas on the first day of June next at Fort Schuyler formerly Called Fort Stanwix the farther Sum of one thousand Six hundred and twenty five Dollars: And also the people of the State of New York shall annually pay to the Cayugas and their posterity for ever on the first day of June in every Year thereafter at Fort Schuyler aforesaid five hundred Dollars in Silver. But if the Cayugas or their Posterity shall at any time hereafter elect that the whole or any part of the Said annual payment of five hundred Dollars shall be paid in Clothing or provisions and give Six Weeks previous Notice thereof to the Governor of the Said State for the time being. Then so much of the Annual payment shall for that time be in Clothing or provisions as the Cayugas or their posterity Shall elect and at the price which the Same shall Cost the people of the Said State of New York at Fort Schuyler aforesaid. And as a farther Consideration to the Cayugas the people of the State of New York shall Grant to their adopted Child Peter Ryckman whom they have Expressed a Desire should reside near them to assist them and as a Benevolence from them the Cayugas to him and in return for Services rendered by him to their Nation, The said tract of one mile Square at the Cayuga Ferry excepted out of the Said Lands reserved to the Cayugas for their own use and Cultivation — That of a tract beginning on the West bank of the Seneca Lake thence running due west (passing one Chain north of an house lately erected and now in the occupation of the Said Peter Ryckman) to the Line of Partitions between this State of New York an the Commonwealth of Maſsachusets of the Lands Ceded to each other thence due south along the said Line of partition, thence due east to the Seneca Lake thence Notherly along the Banks of the said Lake to the place of Beginning so as to Contain sixteen Thousand Acres — The people of the state of New York shall Grant three hundred and twenty Acres to a White person married to a daughter of a Cayuga named Thaniowes including the present Settlement of the said person on the south side of Caghsions Creek and that the people of the State of New York shall grant the Residue of the said Tract of Sixteen Thousand Acres to the said Peter Ryckman. —

Fifthly — The people of the State of New York may at all times hereafter in such manner and by such means as they shall deem proper prevent any persons except the Cayugas and their adopted Brethren the Paanese from residing or settling on the Lands to be held by the Cayugas and their posterity for their own use and Cultivation. and if any Persons shall without the Consent of the people of the State of New York come to reside or settle on the said Lands or any other of the Lands so ceded as aforesaid. — The Cayugas and their posterity shall forthwith give Notice of Such Intrusions to the Governor of the said State for the time being, and further the Cayugas and their posterity forever shall at the request of the Governor of the said State be aiding to the people of the State of

New York in removing all such Intruders and apprehending not only such Intruders but felons and other Offenders who may happen to be on the said ceded Lands to the end that such Intruders Felons & other Offenders may be brought to Justice. — Notwithstanding the said Reservations herein above specified to the Cayugas it is declared to be the intent of the parties that the Cayuga called the Fish Carrier shall have a Mile square of the said reserved Lands for the Seperate use of himself and for the seperate use of his family forever being his present Settlement at the old Orchard. — In Testimony whereof as well the Sachems Chiefs Warriors Governesses and others of the Cayugas in behalf of their Tribe or Nation as the said Governor and other Commissioners in behalf of the people of the State of New York have hereunto interchangeably set their Hands and affixed their Seals the Day and Year first above Written. —

Sealed & Delivered in presence of the Words [Quantity of] [Thereafter] [the] and [a] being first Interlined —

Before Sealing and delivering hereof it was for the Greater Certainty declared to be the intent of the parties that this Grant and Cession is only of the Lands Eastward of the parting Line abovementioned between the State of New York and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and that with respect to such part of their Country as is to the Westward of the said partition Line the Right and property of the Cayugas to be the same as if this Grant and Cession had not been made — and the Cayuga Salt spring and the Lands to the Extent of one Mile around the same to remain for the Common use and benefit of the people of the State of New York and of the Cayugas and their posterity for ever — and the Lands to be reserved at the fishing place near Skayes shall be of the extent of one mile on each side of the river the above reservation of Land on the Southern side of the River only Notwithstanding —.

(Sign'd) Samuel Kirkland Missy
John I. Bleecker
Gerard Banker
Quedel Agwelondongwe his + mark
Oneyanha his mark
Jn°. Skenondough his mark
Kahiktoton his mark
Haghyeande his + mark
{Nyadeughhalongarea alias Luis Cook — } his + mark
{Towanesghhalifca alias Daniel — } his mark
Gilbert Livingston. —
John Taylor
Ph. V. Cortlandt
Geo. (L.S.) Clinton.

(Sign'd)
Pierre Van Cortlandt (L.S.)
Ezra L'Hommedieu (L.S.)
Abm. Ten Broeck (L.S.)
John Hathorn (L.S.)
Samuel Jones (L.S.)
Peter Gansevoort Jun: (L.S.)
Egbert Benson (L.S.)
Towateanitha her mark (L.S.)
Oweeante her mark (L.S.)
Kanoghragende her mark (L.S.)
Kawecanison her mark (L.S.)
Siwalleae her mark (L.S.)
Koghnavisso her mark (L.S.)
Kajiönkokeak her mark (L.S.)
Jeghthoghneas her mark (L.S.)
Tadenorr her mark (L.S.)
Neggeendi her mark (L.S.)
Hanoghtlyatha his mark (L.S.)
Agettgonger his mark — (L.S.)
Haonghyantho his mark (L.S.)
Aoyowcandaghtough his mark (L.S.)
{N.B. the above four signed by their Chief Steeltrap and afterwds sealed and acknowledged by themselves

(Sign'd)
Twasthahave his mark (L.S.)
Pagotgeanantha his mark (L.S.)
Akoganndyoty his mark (L.S.)
Peggeoshkough her mark — (L.S.)
N.B. the Above four persons Signed by Steeltrap as their Deputy —
Kwaiyáowaighota her mark (L.S.)
Karilagsia his mark (L.S.)
Shonhagh his mark Teagon — (L.S.)
Tekoncaghage his mark (L.S.)
Thahonghtyi his mark (L.S.)
Kanonjae his mark (L.S.)
Attwoncanine his mark — (L.S.)
Gogh'yo his mark — (L.S.)

Steeltrap

At a Meeting of the Commissioners
appointed to hold Treaties with the
Indians within this State — Feb. 27th 1789

Present

His Excellency Governor Clinton

Mr Ten Broeck

Mr Gansevoort

Mr Benson —

Resolved that the Treasurer of the Monies in his Hands subject to the Order from the Board in favor of Richard Varick Esqr pay to John Taylor Agent to the Board the Sum of Two thousand Pounds —

I certify the above to be
a true Copy from the Minutes
Egbt Benson one of the
Comrs —

March 4th

11502

Copies

Journal of Saml. Kirkland Miſs from the Society in Scotland and Corporation of Harvard College, to the Oneida Indians and others of the six Nations. From March ~~6th~~ 178 to Janry 12th 1790.

Soon after my return from Boston before I had time to settle my domestic affairs, I was sent for to Albany, at the request of the Cayoga tribe of Indians who were there on public busineſs; accompanied with a deputation from the Onandagos, and Oneidas, with one Seneka Chief. There I was detained for near three weeks. They settled their busineſs to their entire satisfaction; and set out for their home in good spirits tho' we parted with reluctance. — The Cayoga Chief, called Kalistaje, alias Steel-trap was very anxious, and pleaded with tears, that I would accompany him back, as far as Oneida or Onondago, without returning to Stockbridge to see my family. He urged that my family were not to be compared to the concerns of his Nations, and that he wanted my aſsiſtance in

2) as I was the only person acquainted with the state of things among the western tribes, of the six Nations, I could afford him the very help he wanted. — Good-Peter, on this occasion observed, that it was the duty of Ministers to love their natural Children, as well as their adopted ones: and although my own Children were few, compared with my Children of the six Nations, yet, if I did not sometimes attend to them, and especially since they were deprived of their Mother, I should offend the Great Spirit; and that the Cayoga Chief should be more thankful, that I had attended so many days upon the concerns of his Nation. — March 11th Set out from Stockbridge for the Indian Country. The bad weather with my poor state of health, prevented my making that progreſs I could have wished and expected. This week has brought me no farther than the German Flatts. —

15th LD. At the German Flatts; but not in sufficient health to perform any public service.

17th. Arrived near N. Stockbridge, or old Oneida, where I purpose to make my principle residence, the ensuing season; and be preparing accommodations for my family if God shall spare my life to move them into this quarter. This place is situated near the Oriskene-Creek, where

& also a tract of twelve hundred acres to mys

where the Indians gave a small tract of Land to my two oldest Sons, whom they had adopted; and also assigned three hundred and twenty acres a parsonage lot. — It is about eight miles from old Oriskene, northward; and on the Southward joining Brothertown (so called) which is settled by various Tribes of Indians from the Seacoasts in N. England and Long Island: and has on the west New Stockbridge and a part of what is called old Oneida, where four or five families of the Oneidas reside. —

18th This day had a conference with several of the Oneida's, and wrote to the Chiefs to visit me, as I find myself too much fatigued, to travel any more at present; and my cough not only continues, but seems to become more obstinate. —

19th: Recieved word from Oneida, that the Chiefs were gone to Fort-Stanwix, on business; and the Warriors were almost universally on the hunt, from an apprehension that the extreme scarcity of provisions in this quarter would reduce to absolute want in the course of the season. —

22nd L.D. Preached near my own quarters; Some of the Brothertown Indians attended. This is the first time I have been able to perform the various parts of public worship for more than three weeks.

25th Wednesday. I felt so well this day. I concluded to set out with an intention to visit several Indian Villages, and from some encouragements I had ~~given~~ to keep sabbath at Tuscarora and Oneida. I made but a short march this day; find the travelling to be extreme bad.

26th. Lodged with Mr. Sergeant at N. Stockbridge, and spent an agreeable evening with him and some of his people. I find all alarmed on account of the uncommon scarcity of provisions; which is not in one single place, but almost universally through the territory of the six Nations, and down the Mohawk-River till we reach Albany. ——

27th. Proceeded to Tuscarora, accompanied by an Indian to carry my pack. Arrived here about noon and recieved a most cordial welcome. —— This Tuscarora, is the centre of the tract of Land, granted by the Oneida's to the Stockbridge Indians, and where a majority of the Tribe have settled and built the winter past. The Intervals on each side the River, were occupied about forty years ago, by the Tribe of Indians, called Tuscaroras, which gave it the name of Tuscarora: and is ~~still~~ retained by the six Nations. It joins Kanadesko, on the north, and now settled by the remnant of that Tribe, which remain in these parts. This place borders on Kanonwalohare or new Oneida.

28th. Last evening attended a lecture and conference meeting till near midnight; and spent great part of this day in conferring with Capt. Hendrick their Cheif, and several others upon the concerns of their Nation, both civil and religious. ——
after

This place is [illegible]

after many conversations upon the methods to be pur-
pursued for their prosperity, they closed with the
following address to me, and delivered by Capt. Hendrick,
which I believe I can write from minutes in short hand
almost verbatim. —— "Father, we are glad to see your face once
" more. We all thank God that he has preserved you as well
" as us. We are sorry you are not so strong and in good health,
" as when you left us beginning of last winter. But we know
" you endured a great deal of fatigue, attending on the Cayoga's
" in Albany. We see you wear yourself out for poor
" Indians. — ——
" Now, Father, we have one word to say to you; we want
" to thank you for your friendship to our Nation. You
" have helped us from the beginning about getting our lands
" for us, and then to have them properly secured to us
" and our children forever. — You have done a great deal
" for our spiritual good; and you have attended to our
" temporal good too; because if that was not secured to us
" and our posterity, we should not enjoy the Gospel as
" a Nation — —— You have been a true Friend
" to our Nation from the beginning! we never did
" find such true Friend of white men. Now we
" thank you. You have killed all our prejudices by
" love. Now, Father, we are glad God has given us
" a good inheritance, and for our children. We are glad
" too, the same God has provided a place for your chil-
" dren just by us. Here we hope you will, live and
" so by and by die with us here in the wilderness. —

"Now Father be of good courage, preach with us tomor-
"row in the forenoon; then we will accompany you to new Oneida
"and so attend meeting there together: and some of them
"have told us they will come here tomorrow-morning.
"Father this is all we have to say; only that we hope God
"will reward you for all your love to poor Indians."

I write this speech principally with a view to shew the understanding and ingenuity of some of the Indians; and how sensibly they can touch the feelings of humanity and move the tenderest springs of benevolence notwithstanding the savage character so universally given to them. —

29th L.D. Discoursed from Rev. 3. 4. "Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love." — This appeared to be a word in season to a considerable number, and a very tender and affecting season. They thanked me for my labour of love, as they stiled it, and requested a copy of my sermon, or at least so much of it as I had committed to writing. —

In the afternoon, travelled to Kanonwalohale; the distance of about three miles, to the centre of the town. Attended a meeting there. Towards evening discoursed from Gal. 4. 16. "Am I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth." The eldest Sachem, called the Beech-tree, lodged with me, and entertained me, with a long and affecting narrative of the conduct of the french party. —

30th Monday. Attended at the Beech-tree's and had another conference with him, visited a sick person — and was visited by a number, who have always been peculiarly friendly to me, during their disputes, and who were of the best characters in the Nation. — I returned part of the way to my quarters on the Oriske accompanied by the Beechtree and several others; But the snow and rain obliged us to put up near new Stockbridge. — I was so much fatigued and unwell that I could not commit to writing several of their speeches, which discovered much ingenuity, and friendship without disguise. ———

31st. Returned to my quarters on the Oriske.

April 1st Tuesday. Visited by a number of N. England and Long Island Indians. — They agreed to attend divine service at my quarters the next Lords-day; and the sabbath after appointed to go to their village ———

5th L.D. My cough still continues, with so much severity, that I have been able to preach but once this day. ———

8th. Wednesday. I have been visited this day by a number of the Oneida's and Tuscarora's, and had a long conversation with them. All full of their complaints of the extreme scarcity of provisions, and express a dread of coming to absolute distress. They tell me of several families, who are already reduced to half a peck of corn. Recieved a message from the Settlements of Tuscarora &c requesting me to come and assist them in keeping a day of fasting and prayer, particularly on account of the scarcity of provisions; that God may be entreated by prayer and supplications in the name of Jesus to save their Nation, and not cut them off in his anger.

12th. L.D. Preached at Brothertown agreeably to appointment. I discoursed (A.M) from Rev: 3.4. — (P.M.) they assembled again. Our exercises were but short. Towards evening married a couple (Thomas Ptehaka and Elisha) with an exhortation and prayers on the occasion. A serious wedding it was. — They returned me thanks for the seasonable discourse I had delivered to them this day; and said they could not but acknowledge it, and receive it as the Lords message; for many of them had fallen away and lost their first love. They agreed to attend religious worship at my quarters next Lords day.

14th Visited by three Indians from Long-Island; who were a deputation from that tribe, to view the tract of Land, lately granted them by the Oneida's, and confirmed by the State of N. York. — They informed me that their whole Nation have it in contemplation to move into this wilderness, if they like the situation and their friends here think that they can make a live of it, and a probability that God may build up their Nation. — They wished for my advice on the subject. — They informed me, that

Mr. Occum (The Indian Minister) had given
it as his opinion, that it would be best for them to
dispose of all their property on the Island at once
and move up and collect the remnant of their scattered
Tribes to one place and become a people. But
they were afraid Indians would not work like
white people. And it might be that they would all
suffer and come to poverty if they should move as
a body into this part of the world, where there
were no oysters and Clams. They also told me, some
Gentlemen of the Island would furnish them with
a years provision, on condition they should move
into the vicinity of Oneida. — They farther
observed, that if they thought they could all be
united with regard to religion, they would move
up and make one effort to live like white people,
and leave the issue with that God who
governed all the Nations of the Earth. —

19th. L.D. discoursed from 1st. Tim. 6. 6. "But
Godliness &c." Indians of several Tribes attended,
with some of their neighbours in an adjacent
Settlement of white people. — This has been the
most agreeable, instructive and solemn sabbath
that I have enjoyed for many weeks — But,

But I have by some means or other renewed my cold and my cough grows still more severe, attended with a constant fever especially on sunday-evenings, and some pleuratic symptoms, that I am almost unfit for any service ——

20th. The last night and most of this day, have been quite laid up; but again visited by the beforementioned Committee from Long Island. Was obliged to attend to them, and provide them with supplies for their return. ——

21st. Another message came from the Tuscarora, acquainting me, they had agreed upon a certain day for humiliation fasting and prayer; and earnestly requested my attendance: informing me, that a number of the Tuscarora's and Oneida's would attend with them. Also proposed my spending the ensuing sabbath at their new settlement.

23rd. I sat out this day with an intention to reach Tuscarora, travelled about three miles, and was so unwell, that I was obliged to put up. ——

25th. Proceeded on my way, and called at N. Stockbridge, and was visited by the few families remaining in that settlement. After an agreeable interview, they concluded to attend public worship on Lords-Day at Tuscarora. Towards evening arrived here, and have been kindly recieved. ——

26th.

on me [illegible]. —— [illegible]

26th. L.D. Discoursed from Daniel 2nd. 17. 18. "Then Daniel went to his house, and made the thing known to Hananiah &c.— his compainons that they would desire mercy of the God of Heaven, concerning this secret." — P.M. from Jerem. 31. 31. "And they shall be my people, and I will be their God."

My hearers on this occasion, were composed of the Stockbridge Indians Oneida's, Tuscarora's and some others. Speaking in two languages, with other concurring circumstances lengthened out the afternoons service to near four hours. The attention and apparent solemnity of this day has exceeded any sabbaths since my return. There are several persons who manifest a considerable degree of concern, and a great degree of tenderness. Whether ever good is to come to them as a nation, is uncertain, but there is great encouragement to believe that a number of individuals will be gathered into the kingdom of the divine Redeemer, bear his image and partake of his spirit. ——

In the evening a number came into my lodgings and conversed till midnight. —One of the Tuscarora's gave me the following account of the unusual exercises of his mind—

12 "That it appeared to him, that he ~~had~~ two persons, or had two souls in his body; the one good, the other bad. That there was a constant struggle within. Sometimes the bad mind or soul, (as he expressed it) would get the victory over the good mind; and then he had the most fearful apprehensions of death, and seeing his Maker, God. And he had no kind of comfort or pleasure, in any present enjoyment, or future prospect. "At another time the good soul, would rise and get the better of the bad one, and pursue it, as a person determined on the destruction of an enemy; and follow it in its windings and crooked paths: and at length all would seem to be melted and little or no life remaining: And that ~~he~~ had been the general course of his life, for some months past, whether he was possessed of two minds or not. — The bad mind, would sometimes tell him, that he had nothing to do with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. — That Jesus had no concern with Indians, and that if he attended to his instructions, he would be most certainly lost. — And at other times the good mind would be disposed to risque all with Jesus Christ, let the issue be what it would. — He prayed for help and advice, that if possible he might be fixed immoveably upon Jesus Christ."

After this, had a long conversation with one of the Oneida's, who apprehended, that he had, for some days past, new discoveries of the Gospel plan of salvation. His relation of his views, and declaration of his purposes of future amendment, were so lengthy, that I could not commit any part of them to writing, with any kind of connection. ——

27th A number of the Indians convened this morning, to take leave of me. After conversation upon a variety of subjects, they made the following addreſs, in a formal manner. "Father, we have now
" to thank you once more for your love to us. God is
" wise in his Providence and knows all things. We
" were very sorry, to hear you were sick on your way
" to us last week, to aſsist us in the solemn work of
" fasting and prayer, on the day appointed. But the
" disappointment made us look more to God: and now you
" have come to us, we were better prepared to recive
" your meſsage. By this disappointment, we became
" more hungry for God's word; and this has been a
" good season unto us: our souls have fed upon the
" good word of God, which you delivered to us, as though
" you knew all our state.— We will now tell you
" what made us keep a fast and pray. 1st We find
" a great deal of sin remaining in our hearts, it
" may justly make God angry with us, and we de-
" sire that God would make us a holy people.

so that we may enjoy his protection. 2ndly. There are unhappy divisions among us, which we are afraid will hurt our Nation. We are very sorry for this. We prayed to God, that he would make us see who has done wrong, and give us repentance, and unite us together as Brothers, stronger than ever we were before; that we may love one another so well, that our pagan-Brethren in the wilderness, may have a good example from us; and so learn what the religion of Jesus-Christ can do with Indians. 3rdly. The scarcity of provisions in our Nation, and every where around us, and among the white people too! We are afraid we can't keep together, and our Nation will be broken up and dispersed for the year. We see God is angry with us, and he can easily kill us for our sins. If he gives us no bread, we can't live, we must die. We therefore prayed to God, that he would spare us a little while, and see how we should do one year more, if he gives us bread. We prayed to God, that he would send us warm-weather, and give us good spring for corn, that there might be a great Harvest next fall. Then we prayed that God would look upon us, and consider us in our present poverty; it may be he would open the hearts of some good people, some [illegible] us a little. that we dont [illegible]

" pitty him. We pray then, that God would give us his Spirit
" to dwell in our hearts, and make us trust in him.—
" Father these were the reasons, why, we kept fast
" and prayed one day. And now we thank you for
" for coming to us. We hope you will pray for us
" and help us all you can!"—— N.B. A part of the foregoing address, they had committed to writing, the remainder I took down nearly verbatim— About noon took an affectionate leave after singing a Psalm and praying together.——

28th Returned last evening, and this day was visited by a number of the Indians from several villages. The burden of their song, is their poverty, and the present extreme scarcity of provisions. Their pressing, importunate applications to me for relief, are too much, for the feelings of humanity to remain unmoved, even to the injury of one's property.— They come to me with their intreaties and apply to me as their Father and only friend, who will compassionate them in their distresses; and I cannot turn a deaf ear to their cries. I have been constrained to distribute to the necessities of some families, lest they should suffer. 30

30th. The spirit of religion, exhibited in the settlement at Tuscarora, and others in that vicinity, has roused the minds of many in this quarter: and particularly among the Brothertown Indians, to propose a day of fasting and prayer and request my assistance; I accordingly preached this day to them— From these words of the prophet Isai. "For my name's sake will I defer mine anger &c". ——

May 3rd. L.D. At Brothertown, discoursed one part of the day from Daniel 2nd. 17.18. ——

9th. Saturday. The most of this week I have been thronged with Indians from several Villages, and of different tribes. — The relief I afforded to a number of distressed families some time past, has encouraged others to make applications and with such importunity, as will not be denied; so that I do not expect my years store of provisions, for myself, Servant and hired man, will last more than three or four months. The new adjacent settlements of white people, are in circumstances similar to the Indians, which adds much to the gloomy prospect that lies before us in this quarter. ——

I have just now recieved an affecting letter from ne of the Seneca chiefs, whose son I was to have taken for instruction, this season but the extreme cc where, to help us a [illegible], [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] scarcity —

scarcity of provisions will make impracticable.
He represents their situation, on the Genesee, as distressing and almost hopeless. —— He tells me they have made applications in the most pressing manner, to the Superintendant of Indian affairs in the vicinity of Niagara, for supplies, but can get no relief: as the inhabitants in that quarter, are in the same distressed situation. He therefore entreats me, to apply in their behalf, somewhere towards the East, if it be possible to procure them some assistance. ——

10th. L.D. Preached near my own quarters both parts of day, to a considerable assembly, who appeared very attentive. But few Indians present, by reason of the bad travelling. ——

16th. I have had visitants from Oneida, N. Stockbridge and Tuscarora, almost every day through the whole of this week. Some on religious accounts, some for an adjustment of domestic quarrels; but all plead and some with tears, their distressed situation for want of provisions. —
I was to have set out this day for N. Stockbridge and Tuscarora, at which places, am to preach tomorrow, by appointment. But

18 But the weather being so uncomfortable, I concluded to defer it till tomorrow morning, having one of the Oneida's to accompany me through the woods.

17 L. D. I sat out early this morning, with my Indian companion and guide, to travel a direct course through the wood, which was judged to be several miles nearer, than the old Indian footpath and slayroad in which the streams were high and the path very muddy by reason of the late plentiful fall of rain. My Indian-guide, having just returned from a long hunt was so glad to have an opportunity of free conversation with me, in which he was instantly engaged, that neither of us attended to the course we travelled, till we found ourselves on the borders of Brothertown; almost three miles out of our way, that when we had reached N. Stockbridge we had travelled near ten, instead of six miles, and it was ten o'clock A. M. before we arrived. After resting about half an hour, preached from Isai 48. 9.
"For my names sake will I defer mine anger
"and for my praise will I refrain for thee, ~~that I~~
"that I cut thee not off." Immediately after divine service was over, proceeded to Tuscarora, on horseback: rested there a few moments, and took some refreshment

refreshment; then preached to the Indians of several Tribes, who were convened in expectation of my arrival. Some of the Oneida's tarried till evening, ~~when a considerable number to~~ [illegible] when a considerable number collected with a view to have a couple joined in marriage. They tarried till near midnight, for the sake of singing a psalm and an exhortation ——————

19th. This evening returned and by way of Brothertown and feel myself [illegible] unwell. I was so fatigued and my spirits so much exhausted on L. D. evening, that I had scarce any rest even in the small part of the night I reclined for repose. I hired a horse to bring me home. —

26th. Soon after my return from Tuscarora, I was taken with a pain in my side, with other pleuritic symptoms, which gradually increased for several days when they became more violent. I immediately bled myself, there being no physician near at hand, and drank plentifully of a decoction of such febrifuges as the woods afforded: that I am now able through a kind Providence to walk about. ——————

Some of the Indians, not hearing of my illness came a considerable distance on L. D. to hear me preach, but were obliged to submit to the disappointment. ——————

May 31st. L. D. I am so far recovered as to be able to preach a short sermon this day. — Appointed to preach at jigaghquete next Lordsday, for the sake of the Indians at Old-Oriske. —

June 2nd. Tuesday. Was applied to by the Oneida's and Onondago's, to meet them at FortStanwix about eight miles west of Oriske. —

3rd. I this day rode to Fortstanwix, and there met with most of the Oneidas, but the Onondago's were not yet arrived. — The Oriske's assembled the next day Tarried with them in various conferences till friday and then returned to jigaghquate, and made and made a short visit at Oriske.

June 7th. L.D. Preached at jigaghquete both parts of the day. The weather threatening a storm, but few of the Oriskone Indians came and none of the Oneidas, who had agreed to attend there with their Brethren of Oriske.

19th. Friday. Last evening returned from Fort-Stanwix, where I have attended upon the Oneida's, Onondago's, and Cayoga's for near two weeks at their request. — Preached on Lordsday, but with little apparent attention to the things of religion. — I find that I can administer instructions to the Cayoga's and Onondago's, no way so profitable as in a free conference and exhortation, — after answering their questions; the Onondago's have invited me to make them a visit, partly in my clerical character, and partly as their *friend*. Those pagans among them, (after all their pretensions) evidently appear to be [illegible] of the Christian doctrines as opposed to their Ideas of happiness of Indians. Several of this Nation, who lately came from the northward, (since the war) are tinged with the Roman-Catholic tenets, and exceedingly biggotted. – Their two oldest Sachems have for several years given a preference to Christianity as taught by the Prisbyterians, and occasionally attended them. ———

The present extreme scarcity of provisions makes it very difficult to attend to these Indians in any place to advantage. Towards evening was visited by a number of the Brothertown Indians, but with the old story praying for some relief to their hunger. One woman particularly, who suckles a young child, told me that she had for considerable time lived on boiled herbs, *seasoned* only ~~with a little salt~~ with a little *salt*. Her very appearance was truly affecting. ———

21st. L. D. Discoursed from Luke 10. 40, and returned late in the evening from old Oneida. ———

22nd. Visited by three Oneida's, and spent some time with them, both upon their temporal and spiritual concerns, to their great satisfaction. ———

Towards evening was visited by three Indians, on their return from the settlements below in quest of provisions. One of the company had been as far as the City of Albany to purchase corn, and from thence had brought on his back about one bushel and a peck, the distance of ~~near~~ one hundred and twenty miles. ——

24th. Wednesday. — I was beset this day, with such importunity by several Indian families, who were sick with the measles, and utterly destitute of every kind of provisions, that I could not withhold, from the small remains of my own store, although I have not allowed myself but two meals a day for some time past; and frequently but one, when I have travelled among them

25th. Thursday. Again visited by Indians, and particularly an aged Indian, who had five in family. He addressed me in the most tender manner, while every feature of his meagre aspect called for commiseration. ——
"Father," said he, "I am almost discouraged. I am afraid
"God is angry with us Indians. We are now reduced to ex-
"tremity. Never was such a time with us Indians.
"We are very hungry and almost starved. I sometimes
"almost believe the most God has put his curse upon us. It may
"be for the sins of our forefathers; and that is the reason
"we can't live like white people. — But I am not angry
"with the great God. We Indians are poor creatures.
"We don't conduct wisely. — My family have not

"tasted any bread or meat, for many: days: nothing but
"herbs and sometimes small fish. I am so weak I can't
"hoe my corn. — I have been travelling all day among
"white people, but they can't give me any-thing. I have
"two shillings in money but they won't look at it. I
"did not like to come to you, because you help so many
"but I can't go home to my poor children, unleſs I
"carry them something. — You will help us if you
"can because you pity Indians." ——

I mention this instance among many which have occurred of a similar nature, partly to shew the trying situations which a person of feeling may be subjected to in this wilderneſs, who is connected with the Indians; and partly to justify my own conduct. I have been censured by some, for giving too much to Indians, and thereby encouraging their idleneſs; when nothing but the mere dint of neceſsity will drive them to industry. — But in their present diſtreſsed circumstances, the common feelings of humanity, aside of the nobler principles of benevolence would extend relief. — It is true that I have injured my own interest and embarraſsed my circumstances. In leſs than four months I have nearly expended my whole years store of provisions, and in consequence of which I have been obliged to purchase more at an extravagant price. I have given

eight

24 eight dollars for a barrel of corn, and sixteen for a barrel of pork, exclusive of two dollars for freight.—

27th. Having recieved a Meſsage from Kanowalohale, particularly from the French party (so called) I was advised to keep sabbath there. Accordingly arrived there this evening.——

28th. L.D. In the morning discoursed from Acts 10.29. "I ask therefore, for what intent ye have sent for me?" P.M. Gal. 3. 1. 4. In the evening, from Matth. 24. 44. "therefore be ye also ready!"——

29th. Spent the whole day in council, at the request of the Cheifs. Three french Traders were present, who produced a letter from the French Embaſsador to the Oneida Nation, relating to the French priest, who was at the Lake, and as they said had been sent up to their Nation in consequence of their application to the Embaſsador.——

The letter was interpreted in full council. The Indians in general appeared to be much ~~surprised~~,-- and some of them not a little displeased.—— The French Embaſsador, in his letter, had grounded the miſsion of the Romish Priest, to their Country, upon their applications to him by letter, and had therefore enjoined them to recieve him kindly, and give him a glebe of three hundred acres, clear a field, ~~build~~ a house for him &c, &c. ———

Upon this a warm debate ensued, which lasted for several hours. All the Indians (except two) denied in public council, that they had ever desired a Roman-Preist, or had sent for one, or knew any thing of his coming, till he had actually arrived at the Oneida Lake. —— —— The Indians alledged, that if any such letter had ever been wrote to the French Embassador, Mr. Penet, the French Trader and some of his party must have fabricated it. ——

I decline any remarks, upon the subject as it does not come directly under the duties of my mission, and authentic Copy of one of the letters has been transmitted to his Excellency the Govenour of N. York. ——

30th. This morning a Chief of the French junto called Okeandyakhon, alias Coulense, came to visit me. In the course of his conversation, declared that from this day, he would utterly renounce the French-party (as they are called) and never more have any thing to do with them, that he had been decieved and misled by them, and hoped he might be forgiven both by God and man. ——

July 1st. Wednesday. Returned by Tuscarora, Old Oneida, and Brothertown, to my quarters on the Oriske.

2nd. This day was taken with a severe dearhee.

July 9th

July 7th. I have been confined for these seven days past; greatly exercised with pain for some days, and a high fever. The Physician I employed considered my disorder to be a dissentary, and brought on by fatigues, and want of suitable food, with the extreme heat of the season.

He advised me immediately to take a journey so soon as I could bear moderate riding upon a horse.— I accordingly complied.—

July 15th. Arrived at Cambridge, and find myself much recruited, although I prosecuted my journey with too much dispatch, having a desire since I had sat out, if practicable to be at the Commencement—

August 15th. Took leave of my family in Stockbridge and again set out for the Indian Country.— The suffering condition of my domestic and secular affairs, partly owing to my long absence, called for my attention, and detained me longer than I expected when I left Boston. Of this I acquainted the Secretary of the Honble Board, by letter.—

16th. L.D. At Green-Bush, near Albany, and preached for Revd Mr Romaine.—

20th. Thursday. At the upper end of the German-Flatts, where I met with some of my people, who were overjoyed to see me, as they had heard, that my recovery was despaired of, and never more expected my return. With these I spent some time. Agreed to preach next Lords day at Old Oneida.

23rd. L.D. Preached at Old Oneida. from Luke 10. 42. and Heb: 2. 3. Many of the Stockbridge Indians being present, I was requested for their sakes, to deliver my discourses in the English as well as Indian Languages; which circumstance, protracted our meetings till late in the day. —

Towards evening was solicited, to visit a boy in the neighbouring settlement, (on the East side of Oriskene Creek) who had the misfortune to break his thigh. – There being no Surgeon in these parts, I was applied to for what relief I might afford; and as I had several times officiated, in such cases among the Indians no denial would be taken. — Soon after I entered the woods, my horse lost the foot-path, and it presently grew dark in the thick woods, partly hemlock, that I could not discover a single Star to direct my course, nor could I determine by the bark of the trees, any certain point of compass. There I wandered alone, (having parted with my guide, to go another way to procure some herbs) in a dreary. wood till near midnight before I found any house. — I was so much fatigued and sweaty, that I dare not venture to encamp without fire for fear of taking a peripneumonia taking cold. ——

29th. The week past have felt myself unable to do much, have spent most of the time in recieving visits from the Indians of several villages. ——

30th. L.D. Preached at Oriske from John 17th. That they all may be one &c. ——

September 4th. The beginning of this week was applied to by the Oneida Chiefs, to assist them in settleing and adjusting a difficulty that had taken place betwixt them and some of their neighbours. Have spent near three days with them upon the subject, before a complete adjustment and reconciliation could be effected. ——

5th. Saturday. I have this day attended to free, but close conversation with several Chiefs, upon the character and state of the Indians. Among other subjects, was finally requested, as a friend to Indians, and a minister of Jesus, to answer, or give my opinion to several questions— viz. 1st. "Whether I did not think in my mind, that the displeasure of Heaven in a singular manner rested upon the Indian Nations?" — ——

2nd. "Whether this displeasure of Heaven or curse of God was not inflicted on them for some great sin against God, committed by their forefathers?" "And if this was denied,

3rdly "What did the Great God mean by what is said in the second Commandment; that he would visit the iniquities of the Fathers upon the Children unto the third and fourth generations"?—

This conference gave me great anxiety, not only from the delicacy and intricate nature of the subject, but the dispositions of some of the Indians who were present. I knew some of them had imbibed great jealousies of the white people and a deep-rooted prejudice against them, however they might conceal it in their general deportment.— I also knew that some of the Indians, of late years, had embibed and endeavoured to propagate this sentiment.—

viz. "That the Indians are punished for the sins of the forefathers, and the displeasure of the great Spirit is fixed upon them; and in consequence of which, they cannot reform and become a prosperous Nation, like the white people, until such time as this curse or punishment should be removed. Let them exert themselves ever so much, all attempts would be utterly fruitless. This sentiment has been adopted and cultivated by some Indians of very considerable abilities; (who have become most acquainted with divine revelation;) and apparently with a view to check the remonstrances and quiet the clamours of conscience, and to justify themselves in their general course of idleness, and intemperance, stupidity and ingratitude.— I find

I find a very great difference in the natural disposition the Indians, as well as in their feelings towards white eople. Some appear constitutionally to possess a larger hare of humanity than others; are much mor docile and beral in their sentiments towards white people.— I have sometimes conversed with a number of the Indians, upon their resent state and character as a people, and have endeavoured to assign the natural and moral causes of the rise nd prosperity of nations, and the probable reasons the difference betwixt them and the English, in oint of strength, affluence, accommodations, arts &c. nd while descanting on this subject, although with tenderness and prudence, the breasts of some would rise and well, till their resentment could scarcely brook restraint. At the same time others would converse with reat freedom and impartiality, and in the most feeling manner. I have known them mourn and sigh and weep like children in the view of their present miserable state, compared with the white people. They would observe, that the harbours and rivers which once recieved a few Canoe's only, from the former, were now crowded and occupied with great ships the productions of the latter; and where the Indians had a few smoakes, (as they express it) i.e. wigwams, great [illegible] houses were now built by the white people.

Fields and meadows which their forefathers sol for the value of a penny, could not now be purchased for an hundred or thousand. — I have known some Indians while expatiating upon these subjects in the most affecting manner, justify the Deity as the great Governer of the world in making a difference among the Nations of the Earth. While blessing of every kind flowed down like a river upon the white people, as though God begrudged them nothing; calamity, wretchedness and poverty were the lot of the Indians. And what was worse than all, the poor Indians would not believe it! — But to return to the subject of our conference, which was very long. — I can only mention some of the general arguments I made use of; and such as I conceived to be most likely to take hold of an Indian's mind. — —

The first question I acceded to and answered in the affirmative. Viz. "Whether I did not think in my mind, that the displeasure of Heaven in a singular manner rested upon the Indian Nations, Or whether there were not more expressions of divine displeasure and fewer tokens of approbation in Gods conduct towards them than towards the English Nation, as I afterwards stated the question. — — — I endeavoured to adduce evidences of this divine anger. — This I concieved among other things of importance to be held up to the view of the Indians and inculcated, in order to get hold of their minds and fasten this conviction upon them; viz, that many of their practices were highly displeasing to God. I also endeavoured to assign the natural causes of the outward prosperity and happiness of a people: at the same time observed to them, that temporal prosperity, and external grandeur to any people was no where promised in the Gospel, as a reward for their embracing it. Christ's kingdom [illegible] of this world. — Their second question I answered in the negative; utterly rejecting the sentiment as contrary to the word of God, that the Children should be punished for the Sins of their Fathers; and urged, that it must be their own ways and their own doings, for which they would be punished, and not for any supposed transgression of their forefathers. — That the general rule of the divine conduct towards a people in a national capacity, was agreeably to what was written by his Prophet Jerem. Chap 18. 7. 10. "At what instant I shall speak concerning a Nation &c —

An

And that according to our different behaviour and temper, we should become, either the objects of his favour or displeasure. — That there was ~~noth~~ nothing in the *way* of their becoming a religious and happy people, but their own *wicked*, *unbelieving* hearts and ungodly practices. — I also observed that similar objections had been heretofore made ~~even~~ by the jews themselves, (and so long ago, as the days of the prophets) against *God's ways*, and it was displeasing to him. The Deity himself had answered them by his prophet Ezekiel. Chap. 18. 3. 5. The soul that sinneth, it shall die. Observed, that death was the proper and natural wages of sin, without any regard to the faults of their ancestors. And where God had expressly threatened, "to visit the sins of the Fathers upon the Children," it had respect to *temporal* and not to *eternal* punishments. — But it might extend to eternal punishments in cases where the Children inherited the vices, and imitated the examples of their wicked forefathers. And where it is said, "To the third and fourth generation of them that hate him:" it means those, who continue to manifest and express their contempt and hatred of him, by persisting in the wicked doctrines and practices they recieved by tradition from their fathers. — — —

That there is a difference between the crime and the punishment. It was no punishment to a wicked infidel Father, to have a son of the same stamp. But when they came into the place of punishment, the wickedness of the son and the father would be an aggravation to their torments.— And that temporal calamities were frequently brought upon children by the follies and vices of their forefathers.

"You Indians sometimes complain of the injustice of the white *people*, and sometimes you severely censure your *ancestors*. You say they were very *unwise*, that they *loved rum*. And that in some instances they sold their lands, for the small pittance of a blanket and bottle of rum. And you suffer for their follies. This you all acknowledge. And now let me go a little farther and observe. That if you possess the vices of your forefathers, if you are as *unwise* as they were and deaf to all counsel, and if you love the *intoxicating draught*, and will sell your lands for a song; is it not just, that you should be punished for *your own follies* also, over and above what you suffer in consequence of the imprudence or wickedness of your forefathers? — —

The general voice, was togeske, togeske, very true, very true. — ———— —— One of them farther observed, that Indians were poor miserable creatures and were in his opinion, to be pitied, as well as blamed, both by God and man. For he understood it had become a proverb among the white people, to say; "as dirty as an Indian." "As lazy as an Indian" "As drunk as an Indian." "lie like Indians." And we Indians can only say. "Cheat like white man!" And poor Indians must bear it." ————

Another animadverted upon the subject and said, "Indians were very proud, and very obstinate. Had great darkneſs upon their minds; that they did not love peace but loved war too much And that he almost believed, they were the deſcendants of the Jews, for they greatly reſembled each other. The Jews were very proud, they loved war, and did not love to worship the true God. Therefore the great God put a cloth or blanket, (as he expreſsed it,) over their eyes. — He almost believed it was so with Indians; and that they would not see as white people see, and understand the holy book, till such times as the great God should take away this blanket from their eyes." ————

Another

[illegible] J. D.

[illegible]

Another remarked, on this occasion; that the most wonderful thing of all was this, that the great God could make Indians become christians! For some Indians did love God and Jesus Christ so much, that they get drunk no more, and walk in strait path. That he believed, that God did all things right and never once missed it or did wrong. The great God knew best where to give his good things!"

This conference was not only very affecting but very entertaining. I wish the whole might have been written, but I was too much overdone and fatigued myself, to commit it all to writing.

6th. L.D. Preached at Tuscarora, from Joh. 17. 20. 21. Ezek. 18. 4. All souls are mine &c. Isai. 26. 4. The Indians from four Villages assembled yesterday, and having no house sufficiently large to contain the one half, was obliged to preach abroad, and speaking in both languages, kept me on duty almost the whole day. In the evening married a couple, and baptised two children, and ttended a conference till near midnight. Great seriousness nd some affections was discoverable in our various religious exercises. —— Towards evening returned t my quarters on the Oriske, very much fatigued.—

th. Tuesday. Visited by a number of the Indians from anonwalohale. 13th. L.D. Preached at O. Oneida Joh. 11 5. 26. "Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection and the e &c." Spoke in two languages. ——

Driefs of your foreparners. 20

20th. Preached again at Old Oneida, Hebr; 6. 8 "But that which beareth thorns and briars &c." This discourse seemed to be well understood by the Indians in general, and had considerable effect upon them. It is needless for me to particularize the method in which I treated the subject. ——

27th. L. D. At Oriske, discoursed in the forenoon from Psalms. 102. 16. "When the Lord shall build up Zion, he shall appear in his glory." —— P. M. 2 Pet. 1. 10. "Wherefore the rather Brethren give diligence &c."

Octobr. 1st. Having proposed a visit to the Indians in several villages this week, I accordingly set out on monday for Old. Oriske, and by way of Fort Stanwix to Kanonwalohale, Tuscarora, Old Oneida and Brothertown, and this evening returned to my quarters on the Oriske, having travelled about sixty miles, and had many agreeable conferences with the Indians; but nothing worthy of particular notice, has occurred in the rout. —— ——

3d. Saturday. Agreeably to appointment set out for Old Oneida and Tuscarora, at which places I am to preach the ensuing sabbath and the next week have appointed to make a visit to the Onondago's. arrived a little before night. —— —— —— ——

4th L.D.
whereas

4th. L.D. Discoursed largely and particularly from 2.
Pet. 1. 10. "Wherefore the rather Brethren give diligence &c
I began the exercise early in the morning, that I
might reach Tuscarora, seasonably for the after-
noon meeting, which is about three miles from this
place. — About eleven o'clock, I dismissed them and
immediately proceeded for the next village. A con-
siderable number of the Indians accompanied me
although I told them I should discourse upon the
same subject in the afternoon. Upon my arrival at
Tuscarora, found them all assembled of various Tribes,
and several of the Oneida Sachems and Warriors
from Kanonwalohale. They insisted upon my
speaking in the English and Indian languages, that
both might be equally advantaged. I consented
after telling them, that I feared, it would take
p too much time, as the subject could not be made
intelligible and profitable, if not sufficiently ex-
lained. — The Chief replied, that it was the Lords-
y, and they had nothing to do on that day, but
tend to God's counsels and the instructions of
sus Christ. They were not afraid of being weary.
hat in former times, when their Fathers cele-
rated, what they called a religious feast and
nce, in the pagan stile, they frequently followed it
thout intermission, for three days and nights
ness ap[illegible] [illegible].

Insatiably.

successively. And it would be a reproach to Jesus Christ, if they could not attend, one whole day in seven to his spiritual feast, or the food which he had brought down from Heaven, to make glad the heart of man. Upon this observation of the Chief, I immediately began public worship. I endeavoured to explain to them in the clearest manner I could, the nature of the Christian calling and election. Observed, that election was God's choosing and calling, bringing the mind actually to comply with that to which chosen. — But chosen and called to one and the same thing. How we were to make sure, and urged the importance of the Duty, with some inferences by way of improvement. We continued our various exercises till near sunset. And after an intermission of about an hour, and taking some refreshment, attended a conference with singing of Psalms and prayers till near midnight. The Indians were very attentive, some appeared to be affected. they loaded me with their thanks for these discourses. —

5th. Monday. Set out with my companion and guide for Onondago, to go a direct course th through the woods Kanaghserage about eighteen miles from Tuscarora and nearly half ways to Onondago. It was judged that this rout would be a saving of five or six miles. But I felt much out of tune
the
whole

the whole day; having had a high fever and very little rest the last night. About eight o'clock in the evening reached a hut five miles on this side the Onondago Old Village. There lodged. — — — —

6th. This day came to the Old Village, found only two families there, I therefore proceeded immediately to the new settlement three miles up the river. — Was very cordially recieved by my old friend the Black-Cap, who has been frequently mentioned in my former journals. The whole village soon assembled, and in form welcomed my arrival. After long conversation, upon a variety of subjects, more particularly respecting their temporal happiness, and means of promoting and securing that. — The Chief called Capt. Peter alias Haghnyeande, addressed me in the following manner. "Father attend and open your ears, "to hear! I have a matter to relate to you of an extraordinary nature, although you know I seldom deal "much in the marvellous way. What I have to tell "is this; that some of your Oneida Children, (in "the Gospel,) have strangely altered their minds in "regard to the Gospel of the Saviour Christ. Two of "them lately told us to embrace the french religion; "that they had now a Minister who came directly from the King of France; and that he had

confess as your [illegible] pardons.

"the true religion, for he knew the whole mind of the
"the great spirit, and the particular purposes for which
"Jesus came into the world. He knew all about it.
"They then exhorted us, by all means to embrace this reli-
"gion, and with many strong words, they aſsured us,
"that we should be lost, inevitably lost, if we did not
"embrace it. — — — — — — —
"To this, after a short council, we replied, and thank-
"ed them for their concern for our happineſs. We told
"them, that we did not think it best for them, nor
"for the five Nations to change their religions. It
"would tend more to their peace and harmony, to adhere
"to the religious instructions which they had generally
"recieved from their Father Mr. Kirkland, who
"had been among them for a great many years. We
"also told them, that the Onondagoes were not anxi-
"ous about being lost, on account of the religion
"which had been taught them by the English, if
"they did but practice it. And if they should be
"finally lost on account of this religion, they shou
"not be alone. There were Congreſs, and their
"American Bretheren, and a great many of their
"Fathers, the Ministers beyond the great waters,
"who would be their company, if the religion they
"profeſs and teach be not the true religion of Jesus.
I recieved many thanks from the Onondagoes for
my visit, with a request for another and larger visit
whenever

142 whenever it should be convenient. Several of their Speech
es would have been entertaining, could I have found lei-
sure to have written them, with any degree of accuracy.—
10th. Saturday. Returned to my quarters on the Oriske,
having in my way, from Onondago by a different
rout, made a short visit at Kanonwalohale and Tuskarora
But I find myself much unwell, aside of mere fatigue.
Was obliged to ride part of one day and night in the rain,
and lamed my horse passing a miry swamp, and left
him behind and hired [illegible] to ride home, which
proved to be wholly unfit for the business and un-
safe to ride upon in bad way.— This fatigued me
much more than to have travelled on foot, had
it not been for carrying my blanket and a small
pack, having dismissed my fellow traveller.—
13th. Tuesday. I have been confined and kept my
bed for most of the time since my tour to Onon-
ago, till this morning. And I am now importuned
y particular request, to visit Kanonwalohale.—
5th. Thursday. Since my arrival here, have been
ontinually in council with the Indians upon the
nhappy divisions which have for some time sub-
isted between the French Traders interest or party
s they are here called) and the Americans or presby-
rians. I have carefully avoided interfering in their
isputes, from prudential considerations, and the
oness [illegible],
advice

advice of some of the most judicious Indians. Their spirit of jealousy and animosity, at lengths arose to such a pitch, that the peace of the Village and whole Tribe was really endangered. Each party wrote to Governour Clinton of N. York upon the subject. And having recieved his answer, the presbiterian party insisted upon my being present for an accurate translation of his letter. — I will here transcribe the Governours letter to the Warriors, who are also joined by two of their Sachems. —

New York Sept. 12th. 1789.

“ Brothers.”

“ I have recieved your letter, and shall
“ now give you an answer. Mr Pennet, is only to be
“ considered among you, as an adventuring Merchant,
“ pursuing his own interest. He holds no office, nor
“ does he sustain any public character in this Country.
“ He attempts to decieve you therefore, when he says he is
“ sent by the King of France, and the Marquis La
“ Fayette, to transact business with you. You ought
“ not to listen to his speeches, nor pay any regard to his
“ dreams. The King of France is our good ally & he has
“ an Embassador here, (whom you saw with me at Fort
“ Stanwix last fall,) to trasact business and maintain
“ Friendship with the United States. But he has
“ nothing to do with any particular State or the Indians
“ residing in it. You must not therefore believe

" Mr. Pennet, when he says he is sent among you by
" the Embaſsador. — I presume the priest now a-
"mong you, came at the request of Mr. Pennet and his
" friends. They have a right to worship God in a man-
" ner most agreeable to them. But I approve of your
" determination to adhere to your old Minister; for I fear
" the preaching of different doctrines among you, will
" only serve to perplex and puzzle your understandings,
" and divisions either with respect to your temporal or spi-
"ritual concerns, may prove dangerous to your wel-
"fare and prosperity.

" Brothers, I am happy to hear, you are firmly
" united, as to our late agreement, and you may
" rest aſsured that it will be faithfully adhered to, on
" the part of the State. Let me exhort you to sobriety
" and industry, for it is this alone, by the bleſsing of the
" great Spirit that can secure to you comfort and happineſs."

To Col. Honyery and
others Chiefs Warriors of
the Oneida Nation. }

I am your Friend and Brother
George Clinton.

Of this Peter Pennet, the french Trader, I have made men-
tion in my journal the last year. A history of his
speeches, artifices and intrigues with the Indians,
would complete a small folio. Nor do I wish it to
have any place in the journal of my Miſsion to
the Indians. — Some consider him as a person of i-
[illegible]

fine address, great shrewdness and insinuation, well versed in the art of legerdemain, and capable of much duplicity, and with a proper education would have made a complete Jesuit. — I fear he has, by his imprudence (to say no more) laid a foundation for permanent divisions and great animosities among the Oneidas.

17th. Saturday. Since yesterday evening, to ~~late this even~~ing, I have constantly recieved visits from the Warriors and two of the Sachems; and attending to their stories and complaints: all in their turns, giving a history of their troubles and divisions, occasioned by the arts and intrigues which Mr. Bonnet had practiced among them. By sly insinuation, he obtained (they say) a deed of gift of near one half a million of acres of land from four Oneida's, by the help of a Canadian Indian, who understood french. — When this was disapproved and rejected by the State of New York, for peace's sake they gave him ten miles square, i.e. one hundred square miles; which, he told his particular friends, (whom he had effectually secured in his interest,) should be settled with ten thousand frenchmen, in a short time. And then he would take them into his bosom and under his protection: and promised them unbounded presents, which were to come from the King of France. This ten miles

Square (although confirmed by the State of
ew York,) did not satisfy him, nor was equal to his
ants. He *dreamed* that they gave him five miles
uare, in another place; which is the best
and in all their territory; and by the help
nd artifice of his *junto*, has actually obtain-
d a deed of the tract dreamed for, and
igned (as they inform me) by nearly one
ird of the Tribe. ——————

They also declare to me, that two peices more
have gone, or are going the same way. ——
There are three or four Indians, among whom,
is one of their Sachems and a very shrewd Indian
who appear to be perfectly infatuated by the
man. — — — — —

I have expected nothing, but what some
insurrections would have taken place among
us, for many months past. — ——

They seem now to be much quieted. —
Governour Clinton's letter, has fixed Mr.

Pennets character, and confirmed the waver.. among them. — — — Although his particular adherents remains unmoved, and appear to give full faith to all the rediculous and vile insinuations of Mr. Pennet. some of which are almost beneath contempt.— That there would be another war in a year or two, that the King of France would take possession of all the western garrisons, and take all the Indians under his protection, that they should no more be decieved and injured by the Americans, nor any English people. That Congress owed so much to the King of France, they would never be able to discharge the debt, that he must take land for it &c. &c. These and such like reports have been industriously propagated among the poor credulous Indians for these two years past, and fathered upon Mr. Pennet.— But tis possible some of his employers have misrepresented his real design and abilities; particularly in his ships being cast away several times, that were loaded large with presents for the Indians. And that he was to be appointed their Agent General. — — — — —

18th. L. D. Discoursed from Mark. 9. 29. "This kind came forth by nothing, but prayer and fasting." P. M. Chap. 10. 27. "With men it is impossible but not with God &c. — Our meeting was truly affecting and solemn. — — — —

In the evening rode five miles to Old Oneida, and preached a lecture there by particular agreement. — — had a very attentive assembly. —

19th. Monday. Returned to my quarters on the Oriske. — — —

21st and 22nd. Visited by a number of the Oneidas, and others, — but am considerably troubled with a bad cold, and keep pretty much in doors. —

25th. Preached at Old Oneida, attended but one public exercise, by reason of indisposition. — 'Tis an uncommon season of colds among all the Indians, and hear it prevails through great part of the New England and Southern States. — — — — —

27th. Tuesday. By an Indian from the westward, am informed that

7on 89 to 94

that the Onondagoes & Cayogas are very desirous of seeing me before I go to the Eastward & the Senekas wish to let me know they have heard that I am recovered from the poor state of health which I enjoyed the last Summer. And altho' the Summer is past they have not forgotten my promise of making them a visit — Upon this I have sent them word, that at present I am exercised with a cold — but so soon as my health will admit, I will endeavour to make them a short visit, before the winter sets in, at least as far as Cayoga —

29th. Rec.d a letter from the Hon.r Board of Comm.rs in Boston with some extracts of a letter from the Society in Scotland in regard to setting up a School in the Genesee Country agreeable to the encouragement I had heretofore given them; this determined me to undertake the Journey as I knew this information would be highly acceptable to some of them —

Nov.r 2. Monday. My cold was so violent that I was not able to attend public worship yesterday. Have now sent another message to the Onondagoes from thence to be forwarded to Cayoga that they may expect a short visit from me before the winter sets in

I propose

in, if God spares my health—

Novr 18th. Set out for the Western Tribes – have spent most of these two weeks past in visiting the Indians in several Villages & making necessary preparations for my journey particularly in furnishing myself with a horse – the one I carried in my tour Onondago is not yet recovered so as to be equal to the Journey – Also a suitable Indian to be my Companion in my tour —

21st. — Saturday. this evening arrived at Onondago – rode most of the Day in the rain & by night was completely wet from head to foot—

L. D. 22d. The Indians assembled & I discoursed from 1st Tim. VI. 6. "But Godliness with Contentment is great gain" spent the remainder of the Day in conference with the Indians – In the evening had a long conference with the young Chief called Capt. Peter – alias Hagnyerode – he appears exceedingly anxious for the welfare of his Nation. I saw a number of Indians who I knew had resided at Buffaloe Creek – upon enquiry concerning them, Peter told me they are come with a Determination to reside

at their old Settlement. That they have had
the Accession of more than fifty the Sum=
=mer past. I had a long talk with Peter upon the
means, that in my opinion were best adapt=
-ed to promote their temporal Prosperity,
order, & happiness. He returned me hearty tha:
thanks & said he would gently suggest the Idea
to the old Chiefs — but he felt diffident, from
a conviction of their strong attachment of their
customs, & manner of life — I would here observe
concerning this Capt. Peter, that he is an
Indian of very considerable Abilities, & supports
the best Character of any one in the nation
& is by far the most impartial in his sent=
=iments of white People. From long acquai=
=ntance & intimate friendship I can use the
utmost freedom in conversation with him.
He will sometimes weep like a Child (altho' a man
of great natural firmness) in a view of the mis=
=erable condition of the Indians & the obstinacy
& Darkness of mind they seem to possess. He
tells me, that when he has endeavored to in=
=culcate some of the customs of the white people
& some of the Doctrines of Christianity & propos=
ames

5L propose an alteration in some of their man=ners they have frequently retorted upon him with the queſtion— "*Are you becoming a white man?!!* He then farther remarked, "that Indians could never be reformed by *Indians* with out the help of white people— He then gave me the Characters of every principal Indian in the Village they had two biggotted Papiſts & several violent, stanch Pagans— & that my old friend,— the *Black Cap's* influence in the Village was much leſsened (altho' the oldeſt Sachem) by being so much dependent on, & in dread of, his Nephew, a head Warrior who was most ~~p~~ violent for the tradition of the Fathers & poſseſsed a great Contempt of white People. his Indian name, I will mention as Peter obſerved to me he had often thought it expreſsive of the man '*Onaghsategea* which signifies, "a *burning or flaming Arrow*"— This Onaghsategea, returned from Buffaloe Creek about two years ago— He is a Person of a manly good appearance & fine addreſs; but peremptory, & poſitive, full of aſsurance, & haughtineſs— savage in his Diſpo=ſitions, & of late years has become a great

Drinker & at particular Seaſons will have a drunken frolick— But what is very singular in the man with all his ferocity he is kind to his wife & exceedingly fond of her— treats her with the higheſt reſpect, never preſumes to drink to exceſs in her preſence— & even when drinking will quit his cup at her entreaties or injunctions. She is a Squaw or Woman of uncommon abilities & addreſs—

23d— Spent some time this Day very agreeably with my friend Capt. Peter, & the Black Capt. they wiſhed that two or three of their Children might be inſtructed in the manners & ways of white people—

24th Tues. The Indians again met on secular affairs— upon this occaſion I harangued them not merely as a Clergyman, but as a friend and Civilian— upon the nature, & importance of induſtry, agriculture, sobriety, & the uſefulneſs of learning & what commonly gave wealth, numbers, & reſpectibility to a nation— for this speech I received thanks, with loud applauſe— much beyond what my sermon occaſioned, Altho' I did not expect more than half a dozen.

would

54 would have much reliſh for the Doctrines of the Goſpel, notwithſtanding many of their profeſsed Pagans attended out of reſpect to me as their friend, I propoſed to have proceeded this Day on my journey, but my Indian Guide went into the woods to fetch some Veniſon, & has not returned—

25th Wedneſd. Set out for Cayoga, traveled about twelve miles & encamped—

26th Proceeded in company with a white man who was going about ten miles in a new marked road which would croſs the outlets of the two Lakes, Skangades & Waſker— about four or five miles below the Lakes, where it was suppoſed a horſe might ford without swimming—— The next Day (left my Indian companion) I hired a white man, whom I met on the road going to Onondago, to accompany me, about sixteen miles till I should croſs the outlet of the Waſker. I paid him, one Dollar & his Proviſion for a Day an a half, for his service; but to save himſelf the travel of only two miles he took me, another Courſe, than was agreed upon, which led me near two miles still farther down the outlet, & by the winding of the River might come to it so much the sooner. having received his pay here left me — I had then about ten miles in a dir Course to travel alone & through some large, hideous, & tremendous Swamps — sometimes obliged to dismount, strip, & swim my horse wade & jump from Bog to Bog & get my horse along as I could, in many places I expected he would have mir & drowned — one swamp was so large that after I had entered some time I could see no way out to high land, & expected to have spent the Day & night there, I was so concerned lest I should miss my way (it being cloudy), & not reach the Cayoga Lake, that I never halted but once through the Day just to strike fire & light my pipe — through a kind Providence a little before sun set I reached the Cayoga Lake — at the sight of which I confess I wept for joy — Here I lodged met with but one Cayoga Indian, who informed me they were all on the hunt — & that the noted Steel Trap & some others were very desirous to see me, & wished by my return they might be collected, & that it was probable I might meet with some of them at Kanadasegea —

28th Crossed the Cayoga Lake and with much Difficulty & after swimming my horse several times arrived at Kanadaſegea a little before sunset, & feel exceedingly fatigued but in good spirits—

29d. L. D. Preached at Kanadaſegea from Ezek. 44. 3" and they shall teach my people the Difference" &c—

30th. Monday. Tarried at Kanadaſegea & converſed with a number of Indians both Cayogas & Senakas the weather being very comfortable concluded to tarry the next day—

December. 2d— Proceeded on my journey having procured a companion not chooſing to travel any more alone, the rivers & swamps being so full of water it has become dangerous as well as difficult— About sunset arrived at Kanandaique

4th— I tarried yeſterday to reſt my poor horſe which is almoſt worn out with the journey, & there are but a few places where I can get any thing for him to eat; except grazing a nights in the woods which at this Seaſon of the year afford but very little suſ=tinence— I proceeded this Day for Geneſee having procured another perſon to accompany me reached the Kan'yagers Lake a little before sun=set finding no Shelter at this place turned out of the path about 3/4 of a mile in queſt of an Indian hunting Cabin, wich I was told by some Indians I met in the Day was on the weſt side of the Lake Im=

In the Dusk of the evening found the Cabb I was kindly wellcomed by two of my old Seneka frien They regaled me with a piece of boiled porcupin after which we sang several Psalms & prayed toget then laid ourselves down on a good Bearskin & conversed till near midnight—

5th. This evening arrived at Genesee on the way from Hartyayen, met with several squads going out on their winter hunt— And told me they had given over all expectation of my coming to see them this Season — Two of the Chiefs in one squad proposed to return & keep Sabbath with me to morrow, before dark one of them arrived in the Village where I had put up— Our mutual joy was so great at our meeting with each other in this wilderness that notwithstanding my fatigue we spent most of the night in conversation together with some other—

6th. L:D. Discoursed from. Mark X. 26th. "But with God all things are possible" I spent the Day & nigh in the most friendly & agreeable Conferences with the Indians— I think I never was more kindly treated & more cordially welcomed by any people in the Course of my life— were it not for the Duty I owe to my poor motherless Children, I verily believe they would easily prevail on me to spend them

58. the winter with them at all hazzards - even
the little Children, come, & enquire of me if
I am about to leave them soon, & expreſs their
Deſires in the tenderest manner that their
father would tarry with them - while the
warriors are gone out on the hunt —

Monday morning - Delivered the following
speak (having it previouſly prepared) to the
noted Seneka Chief called Bigtree, & sev=
=eral others preſent, particularly Capt. Isaac
& some of the chief women —

" My Children attend — — I know that you
have long expected a viſit from me, upon
the encouragement I gave you the last time I was
in your Country — You very well know &
what is an acknowledged maxim of your
fore fathers, that no man has the abſo=
=lute command of his health, nor the
number of his Days — my sickneſs the last
Summer prevented my viſiting you, at
the time I wiſhed & had thought of in my
own mind; Bread was alſo very scarce
in all our Country — But I have never=
=theleſs bourn you on my mind every day &

& remembered you when I have prayed to the great Spirit, in the name of his Son Jesus — My Children — It gives me great Pleaſure to see you in peace once more — that the great Spirit, our common Parent, hath preſerved you — that you are alive & in health — my Journey has been attended with some Difficulty & fatigue owing to the high waters, & extreme bad traveling, the great Spirit has been kind to me, & watched over me every Day, I thank him for his Protection —

My Children — I had almoſt relinquiſhed my Intention of viſiting you this Seaſon, but upon receiving some information from the Commiſsioners in Boſton & your Fathers the Society in Scotland, that reſpected your good, I reſolved to undertake the Journey, & make a short viſit at the various Settlements of Indians on the way —

— My Children now open your Ears — The good news I have to communicate to you is this — That in Conſequence of the repreſentation, I made about a year ago of your Situation & Diſpoſition the Society in Scotland, in conjunction with their Board in Boston have determined, to set up a School in your Country the next spring - to instruct some of your youth - they wish to do something that will be productive of good to your Posterity - they know there are many Difficulties to be encountered - & these must be gradually removed in the instructions of Indians - Your wandering manner of life - your strong attachments to the customs of the Fathers, & your prejudices against the white people in general, arising chiefly from the wicked practices of Individuals - with whom you have been most conversant - These & some other things are great Discouragements in all the Attempts that have been made for the civilization of the Indians - My Children - you will allow me to speak freely on this subject, for I have had long acquaintance with Indians, & they consider me as their friend.

I can tell you that some wise Indians whose minds are enlarged, & become less prejudiced have themselves observed those things to me, & asked me why it is so, that Indians can not become all one white people

Many wise & good men here in America & on the other side of the great water, think much about you — They can devise no other method for the good of Indians but the Instruction of some of your youth in the arts of civilized life which in time may prepare the way for the knowledge of the true religion, they dont mean to crowd the religion of white people upon you. then you come to know the mind of the great Spirit & his perfections — then you will be able to make a wise choice for yourselves — I know that some of your people even now wish for a minister to teach them the new way which (it is said) Jesus has marked out for worshipping the true God, who is the great God over all nations*, but others among you who dont understand these things are afraid it will not be for the good of Indians —

Now my Children I wish to know your minds upon the subject & where you think

---

*this is a mode of expression by some of the Indians respecting Christianity

6ly it will be most convenient for the Schoolmaster to take up his residence & in what place it will be best to set up the School" —

To the foregoing Speech the Bigtree with Capt Isaac & some others made the following reply

" Father attend — We have heard your speech we bid you a hearty welcome to our village on the Genesee we thank the great Spirit that he has preserved you through all the Dangers of the way, & rescued you from any fatal evils with which the path might have been strewed & you have fallen —

Many unseen dangers lie in the path of every man from which the great Spirit alone can give safety — we also thank the great Spirit that you have recovered from your sickness the the summer past —

Father we thank you that you think of us when you are at a great Distance from us, this is right we suppose that ministers are more conversant with the great spirit, & good things which tend to peace than Sachems, & warriors—

Father we will now reply to the governing part of your speech, [they here repeated almost verbatim a considerable part I had spoken upon the subject, & then observed]

'This is good news, it is good news without any mixture, that the ministers & wise men on the Sea shore, and at a great Distance on the other side of the great water in Scotland should think of us, & think of us with compassion & seek our good,— Father we are unable to make a suitable reply to this good news, you see there are only a few of us at home all comparatively are on the hunt. but we think we may in the name of all the Settlement on this river thank our Fathers for the good mind they have towards us manifested in their Design to instruct some of our youth. Father you have spoken aright you know the mind, & Dispositions of Indians you know what they

prejudices are against the manners
& ways of white people, but we believe if
our Children are taught in the right way
when they are young some of them at least
will become wise — you also know there is a
great difference among Indians towards
white people — some Indians upon a short
acquaintance very easily love, & respect.
white people — Others have different minds
they seem to dislike white people, & very hard
to make them love people — Brother possess
your mind in peace — we believe it is
pretty much so with respect to the dis=
=position of white people towards Indians
we see there is great ~~treatment~~ difference
in their treatment of us Indians —
" We hope you will find a man for a
Schoolmaster who loves Indians, & can be
patient with them & can bear with their
failings — Brother as to the place where the
School shall be fixed — we submit wholly
to you — because you know the situation
of

of our village & where the Indians live who are most desirous of having their Children instructed — this is all we have to say. we send our respectful Salutations to the ministers & great men to the east & over the great water, —

Kalondowanea, alias
Bigtree
Tolaghdowane alias
Capt. Isaac
Says —

A short answer.

My Children, Your words I have heard, they give me great pleasure. I need not repeat them, although they have taken hold of my mind. —
The pains some of you have taken to see me, in returning from your hunting cabbins, on hearing of my being near your Village, and the kind reception I have met with, seems to erase from my mind the remembrance of the fatigue and hazzards of my journey; and encourages me to hope good will come to you and your Children. Notwithstanding the season is so far advanced, were your people generally at home, I would spend several weeks with you. — But as things are now circumstanced, I think to take my leave of you, in a few days.

10th. This evening arrived at Kanadasegea, from Genesee, accompanied by Bigtree and another Chief. We lodged by the way one night in the woods, und the cover of a few barks. It being too cold for sleeping comfortably, we kept a good fire, and after a hearty supper upon a peice of bears meat, and an indian cake and a drinking of tea, boiled in the sa kettle, after the bears flesh, we spent most of the night in conversation, upon the state of the India and customs of Nations, very agreeably; also singing of some psalms with which they seemed hig ly entertained. — — — — —

11th. Friday. The Bigtree and several others took leave of me, having previously furnished them with provisions for their return, and very fortunately for me; at anothers expence, for whom I did some little business with them. — They very affectionately, "wished me a good journey, and the constant protection of the great Spirit, above." — —

12th. Visited by a number of the Indians this day at my quarters. I have met with several of the Cayugas and conversed with them upon the present

sent divided state of their Tribe, which gives them great concern - Towards evening The two Indians arrived from Genesee, whom I had engaged to accompany me, as far as Oneida, and several others, who are on the ground, will go as far as Cayoga to see me over the Lake. The Indians think it expedient, to leave this place by to morrow noon, so as to cross the Lake before the ice closes fast, if the present boisterous weather should abate. The inhabitants in this new settlement with a number of Indians who came to this place for trading, have requested me to preach a lecture this evening. - -

13th. L.D. I preached a lecture last evening and this morning attended prayers with singing a Psalm and a word of exhortation with my friends and the Indians present. ———

Then set out about noon in hopes of being able to cross the Cayoga Lake on monday morning. - But are now encamped in the woods betwixt the two Lakes, and overtaken by a violent snow-storm. —

14th. Monday. A little after noon arrived at Cayoga Lake, where we are now encamped. And to our surprize and great disappointment find the

Lake frozen over, but not strong enough to bear a person, much less a horse. Our situation is gloomy, turn which we will, to the right or left we cannot go. And to look back towards Kanadasegea is distressing. And to tarry here by the Lake-side, and half frozen, without any covering, is alarming. — Submission to our lot and patience to bear it is the only remedy, we can at present devise. ——

15th. Tuesday. The wind rose last night, and blew like a hurricane, which threw the Lake into such a tumult, as broke the ice in peices and drove it all to the Northward of the Lake, and clearing a passage for us. And, a little before sunset, we ventured over; but thought it not safe to riske the horses. — — — — —

16th. This morning the wind had entirely ceased blowing, and still water, gave us a fine opportunity for getting our horses ferried over the Lake, which we effected by noon; when it set in raining and continued till night. — Here parted with the Cayuga Indians. — — — —

17th. ~~Thursday.~~ Set out very early this morning, ~~& in great want of provisions, we travelled the whole day without taking any~~ [illegible] ~~and in the evening~~

~~evening to our great joy reached Onondaga~~
travelled all day in a new marked path, and encamped in the woods near Waskon outlet. —

18th Friday. Set out early this morning, being nearly out of provisions, we travelled the whole day without taking any refreshment, and in the evening to our great joy reached Onondago. After resting a while and taking some refreshment, attended a conference with the Indians. Agreed to attend prayers, with a word of exhortation, and baptize ~~Capt.~~ Peters Child, early to morrow morning, being very desirous to get to Oneida to morrow. — This Capt. Peter I have mentioned before. He has for many years attended to religious instruction, while he resided at Oneida, where he married his wife, who sustains an unblemished character. — — — — —

19th. Saturday evening. Having fulfilled my engagements, at Onondago, in attending prayers, with an exhortation of near half an hour, we proceeded on our way, have now arrived at Kawasleagh, a small Village about four miles west of Kanowalohale. — The travelling has been extreme bad and I have had a most fatigueing day. But a kind Providence gives me health. — —

20th. L D.

19. L.D. the few families in this village, aſsembled early this morng. at their earnest deſire I preached a short sermon, & baptized a child of Loulus, who formerly belonged to the Chh at Onohoghquage. — Then proceeded to Kanonwalohale & preached in the afternoon from Mark 13. 31. 'Heaven & Earth shall paſs away &c. In the evening from the same words.

20. Monday — spent most of this day in conferences with the Indians at this place. I find their unhappy diviſions are by no means healed: altho' the French Traders party are much weakened. Some of them however, I am told, are so obstinate & fixed in their attachment to Mr. Pennet, & such pretended confidence in him after all his artifices & duplicity, that they will give no credit to Governor Clintons declarations respecting him; and deſign to make farther inquiries of the French Embaſsader at N. York concerning ~~the~~ matter.

22. Last night I was agreeably entertained with the converſation of one of the Oneidas, who has been (as he tells me) for several months under great exerciſes of mind, & dare not let it be known till this time. He deſigned to have accompanied me to the westward, for this very purpose, of opening to me the con-

cern of his soul, in some retired place in the wilderness. For he had done a great many bad things in the sight of men: but the thousands of wicked thoughts in his heart towards God & Jesus Xt, were not fit to be known to the Indians; or they would immediately conclude, that he never could be saved = that it would make God a liar, if he should save such a creature.

The burden of his complaint after all seemed to be this, "that his heart should rise up against Jesus Xt & that holy path of obedience, when his mind, or judgement kept telling him continually "that it was right perfectly right - to love God - to love Jesus Xt, & repent & do every thing that God had bidden him".

As we lay together in the same Cabbin, we conversed great part of the night. I am so much worn out with my Journey that I can't commit to writing the relation he gave of the various exercises of his mind & views of the Indians. - I consider him as under the opperations of a strong conviction of the truth, set home upon his heart by the divine spirit. It is however possible, ~~that~~ he has met with that, which will be saving. He appears wholly to justify God, in all his requirements of his creatures, & condemns him himself for his own wickedness. Speaks lightly of the work of Christ: but dreads the prospect of seeing his Maker at death, from an apprehension that his wickedness of heart can never be forgiven.

Two of the Oneida Chiefs, inform me, that the party among them, who have been so unaccountably led astray by the French Traders, & obstinately attached to their interest, design to go to N. York, to see the French Embassador; which they are to effect under pretence of going no farther than Schenectady, to visit some of the french traders there. And that this plan has been suggested to them by those traders, that the Nation, might not be apprized of their real design.

Should this take place, the English, or Presbyterian interest, (which is now become a great majority) have determined in private council, to send a delegation on their behalf; lest the others by misrepresentation of facts should obtain a confirmation of the partial conveyances of two tracts of land, to Pennet & Company. They were also apprehensive, the before mentioned party would make application for the return of the

french Priest, - of whom they had now happily got rid.
& wished to see no more. - They earnestly desired
my attendance, on Condition, the parties should
send a delegation to the Governor of N. York - as
there was no person they could depend upon for a
just interpretation of my speeches, but myself.

23 - Last evening returned to my quarters, on
the Oriske, after an absence of 34 days: O, may
I suitably acknowledge & never forget the
protection of heaven thro' all my late arduous &
perilous Journey.

~~Janry 2d~~ 15. monday. The weather being stormy
yesterday, and I so sensibly feel the effects of my
journey, that I was unable to attend public worship.

26 - Saturday. the week past I have done little
more than writing letters & petitions for a number
of the Indians.

27. preach but once this day.

Janry 2 - 1790 - I have visited one Indian Village -
& made some preparations for a visit to my family
at Stockbridge

Jany 7

Jany 3, Discoursed from the Parrable of the unjust Steward - Luke 16th —

4 - Set out for Stockbridge. — soon after setting out was informed that a delegation of six or eight Indians will soon be on their way for N. York. - agreeably to my promise, I engaged to be there by the middle of the week after next. —

11 Arrived at Stockbridge - found my dear family in health & peace.

18 — set out for N. York in the Stage from Kenderhook. - arrived at N. York the 20th — about midnight. & after waiting about two weeks for the Indians then set out on my return; but rode no farther than Kingsbridge 15 miles - & met with an advanced party; upon which I was prevailed upon to return, immediately back to N. York; where I was detained by their slow & formal way of doing business with a variety of avocations till the 15th of Febry. —

Their disputes I would hope are amicably settled. the Presbyterian interest, have obtained their wishes; & the others appear satisfied - except two persons, who cannot brook the mortification of disappointment: particularly, Lewis Cook - the half-Negro - from Canada.

Tis nevertheless, Governor Clintons opinion, that the Oneidas will never enjoy peace; but be kept in a continual broil - so long as he continues with them. And the Oneidas, as a nation, dispair of ever getting clear of him as he hath married into one of their principal families & which family always had a fondness for the French.

23. Tuesdy returned to my family in Stockbridge. - My being so unexpectedly & for so long a time detained in N. York, by the delay of the Indians, has utterly frustrated my design of getting back to the Indian Country before the sledding season should be over, for the sake of transporting my provisions -

The Govr of Connecticut —

New York March 1st 1789

Sir

I have received your favor of the 15th Jany together with your official communications containing Copies of the laws, acts & public Records from the 9th July 1788 to 31st December inclusive. I presume you consider the transactions with the Indians as not being a part of the public records of the district or of the proceedings of the Governor in his Executive department, and therefore have omitted sending them. But as by the resolution of the 3d October 1787 from and after the 1st August last the powers duties and emoluments of the Superintendant of Indian affairs are United with those of the Governour, and by the Resolution of the 3d [illegible]

the Governor is at the westward in consequence of his office
of Superintendant of Indian affairs to hold a treaty with the
Indians [illegible] the limits of the United States inhabiting
the Territory Northwest of the Ohio, and as the transactions
with the Indians will be an important part of his
duty, I submit it to him and your consideration
whether it would not be proper for the future to make them
a part of the Records of the district. I have read atten-
tively the letter of the judges and am much
pleased with them. I have examined the original
copy of the ordinance for the government of the
territory of the United States Northwest of the
river Ohio, and in the sentence "the governor & judges
or a majority of them" &c there is a Comma after
governor but none after judges so that his honors
conjecture is well founded, and his interpretation
I apprehend right. The New Congress is not yet
formed, the badness of the roads having prevented
the attendance of the Southern members. As soon as they are
in capacity to proceed to the execution of business the laws
which you have transmitted to me shall be laid before
them. I am &c

C.T.

Winthrop Sargent Esq Secy
to the Governor of the W.T. —

Are wrote opposite to their respective Seals and also the several Commissioners within named severally seal and deliver the within Instrument as their voluntary Act & Deed for the Uses therein mentioned; And that they severally subscribed their names thereto as Witnesses to the Execution thereof and saw the other subscribing Witnesses set their Names thereto for the same purpose. And the said Samuel Kirkland farther deposeth & saith that previous to the Execution of the said Deed, he truly and faithfully interpreted the same to the said Indians from the English into the Indian Language, and from such Interpretation they well understood the Contents thereof. And I having examined the said Instrument and finding therein no Razures Interlineations or obliterations other than those made and interpreted before its Execution. Do allow the same to be recorded.

Robert Yates.

The aforegoing Instrument is a true Copy of the Original (word to between 26th and 27th lines page 156 and Words People of the between 3d and 4th lines of page 158 being at first interlined. Word or 9th line page 157 and Word Blacksmith 2d line page 159 being at first written on Razures) Compared therewith By Me. —

Lewis A: Scott. Secretary.

At a Treaty held in the City of Albany in the State of New York by His Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the said State, the Honorable Pierre Van Cortlandt Esquire Lieutenant Governor of the said State, Ezra L'Hommedieu Abraham Ten Broeck, John Hathorn, Samuel Jones Peter Gansevoort Junior and Egbert Benson Esquires (Commissioners authorized for that purpose by and on behalf of the People of the State of New York) with several of the Sachems Chiefs and Warriors of the Tribe or Nation of Indians

called the Cayugas for and on behalf of the said Nation; It is on this twenty fifth day of February in the Year of Our Lord One thousand seven hundred and Eighty Nine covenanted and concluded as follows. — First the Cayugas Do Cede and Grant all their Lands to the People of the State of New York forever. — Secondly the Cayugas shall of the said ceded Lands hold to themselves and to their posterity forever for their own Use and Cultivation but not to be sold leased or in any other manner aliened or disposed of to others All that Tract of Land Beginning at the Cayuga Salt Spring on the Seneca River and running thence southerly to intersect the middle of a Line to be drawn from the Outlet of Cayuga to the Outlet of Wuskongh Lake and from the said Place of Intersection Southerly the general Course of the Eastern Bank of the Cayuga Lake, thence Westerly to intersect a line running on the West side of the Cayuga Lake at the mean distance of three miles from the Western Bank thereof, and from the said Point of Intersection along the said Line so running on the West Side of the Cayuga — Lake to the Seneca River thence down the said River to the Cayuga Lake thence through the said Lake to the Outlet thereof thence further down the said Seneca River to the — place of Beginning so as to comprehend within the Limits aforesaid and exclusive of the Water of Cayuga Lake the quantity of one hundred square miles. Also the place in the Seneca River at or near a place called Skayes where the Cayugas have heretofore taken Eel and a competent Piece of Land on the Southern side of the River at the said Place sufficient for the Cayugas to Land and Encamp on and to cure their Eel. Excepted nevertheleſs out of the said Lands so reserved one mile square at the Cayuga Ferry. — Thirdly the — Cayugas and their Posterity forever shall enjoy the Free — right of hunting in every part of the said ceded Lands — and of fishing in all the Waters within the same. Fourthly nsideration of the said Ceſsion and Grant the People

no

Of the State of New York Do at this present Treaty pay to the Cayugas five hundred Dollars in Silver (the Receipt whereof the Cayugas do hereby acknowledge) and the People of the State of New York shall pay to the Cayugas on the first day of June next at Fort Schuyler formerly called Fort Stanwix, the farther Sum of One thousand Six hundred and twenty five dollars. And also the People of the State of New York shall annually pay to the Cayugas and their posterity forever on the first day of June in every Year thereafter at Fort Schuyler aforesaid five hundred Dollars in Silver. But if the Cayugas or their posterity shall at any time hereafter elect that the whole or any part of the said annual Payment of five hundred dollars shall be paid in Clothing or provisions and give six weeks previous Notice thereof to the Governor of the said State for the time being then so much of the annual payment shall for that time be in Clothing or provisions as the Cayugas or their posterity shall elect, and at the price which the same shall cost the People of the State of New York at Fort Schuyler aforesaid. And as a farther Consideration to the Cayugas the People of the State of New York shall grant to their adopted Child Peter Ryckman whom they have expressed a desire should reside near them to assist them, and as a Benevolence from them the Cayugas to him and in return for services rendered by him to their Nation, the said Tract of one mile square at the Cayuga Ferry excepted out of the said Lands reserved to the Cayugas for their own Use and Cultivation. That of a Tract Beginning on the West Bank of the Seneca Lake thence running due West (passing one Chain North of an house lately erected and now in the Occupation of the said Peter Ryckman) to the Line of partition between this State of New York and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts of the Lands ceded to each other, thence due South along the said Line of partition, thence due East to the [illegible] Lake

Thence Northerly along the Bank of the said Lake to the place of Beginning so as to contain sixteen thousand Acres the People of the State of New York shall grant three hundred and twenty Acres to a white person married to a daughter of a Cayuga named Thaniowes including the present settlement of the said Person on the South Side of Caghsion Creek and that the People of the State of New York shall grant the residue of the said Tract of sixteen thousand Acres to the said Peter Ryckman. ~ Fifthly* the People of the State of New York may at all times hereafter in such manner and by such means as they shall deem proper prevent any persons except the Cayugas and their adopted Brethern the Peanese from residing or settling on the Lands to be held by the Cayugas and their posterity for their own Use and Cultivation, and if any persons shall without the consent of the People of the State of New York come to reside or settle on the said Lands or any other of the Lands so ceded as aforesaid, the Cayugas and their posterity shall forthwith give notice of such intrusions to the Governor of the said State for the time being. And further the Cayugas and their posterity forever shall at the request of the Governor of the said State be aiding to the People of the State of New York in removing all such Intruders and apprehending not only such Intruders but Felons and other Offenders who may happen to be on the said ceded Lands to the End that such Intruders Felons and other Offenders may be brought to Justice.* Notwithstanding the said Reservation herein above specified to the Cayugas it is declared to be the intent of the parties that the Cayuga called the Fish carrier shall have a mile square of the said reserved Lands for the separate use of himself and for the separate Use of his families forever. ~ [illegible] estimony whereof as well the Sachems Chiefs
(Warriors)

Warriors Governesses and others of the Cayugas on Behalf of their Tribe or Nation, as the said Governor and other Commissioners on behalf of the People of the State of New York have hereunto interchangeably set their hands and affixed their Seals the day and Year first above written. — Thanhaghtijagon his mark (L.S.) Tekaneaghage his mark (L.S.) Thahonghteje his mark (L.S.) Hanaryae his mark (L.S.) — Attwanconine his mark (L.S.). Goghge his mark (L.S.). Taulinon her mark (L.S.). Kowayadoweaghsta her mark (L.S.). Neggondi her mark (L.S.). Haustagia his mark (L.S.) Steeltrap. — Hanoghtsiyatha his mark (L.S.) Agethsengoos his mark (L.S.). Teyowandasiongh his mark (L.S.). Haonghsentha his mark (L.S.). NB the above four signed by their Chief. Steeltrap. Tewathahase his mark (L.S.). Tyotyeanentha his mark (L.S.). Ahasumdyak his mark (L.S.). Teggawakhongh her mark (L.S.). NB the above four persons signed by Steeltrap as their Deputy. Towatcanitha her mark (L.S.) Towcanse her mark (L.S.) Kanaghsayande her mark (L.S.) Thaweerisen her mark (L.S.). Swatteaa her mark (L.S.) Kaghnawigo her mark (L.S.) Kajoonkwoheagh her mark (L.S.) Joghneshney her mark (L.S.) Pierre Van Cortlandt (L.S.) Ezra L'Hommedieu (L.S.) Abr. Ten Broeck (L.S.) John Hathorn (L.S.). Samuel Jones (L.S.). Peter Gansevoort Junr. (L.S.) Egbert Benson (L.S.). Geo: Clinton (L.S.) Sealed & delivered in the presence of the words [quantity of] [in the Seneca River at or near a place] [thereafter] [the] and [a] being first interlined. and the words [of a] and [fifthly the people of the State of New York may at all times hereafter in such manner and by such means as they may deem proper prevent any persons] being first written on Razures. Before Sealing and delivery hereof it was for the greater certainty declared to be the intent of the parties that this grant and Cession is only of the Lands Eastward of the partition Line above mentioned between this State of New York and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and that with respect to such part of their Country as is to the Westward of the said partition Line the Right and property of the Cayugas to be the same as if this grant (and)

And Cession had not been made. The Cayuga Salt Spring and Land to the Extent of one mile around the same to remain for the common Use and Benefit of the People of the State of New York and of the Cayugas and their posterity forever. And the Land to be reserved at the Fishing place near Skawes shall be of the Extent of one mile on each side of the River the above reservation of Land on the southern side of the River only notwithstanding. Gilbert Livingston John Tayler. Ph: V. Cortlandt. Sam. Kirkland Miss'y: John I. Bleecker. Gerard Bancker. Luedel Agwelontongwas his mark Oneyunha his mark. Skenondonyh his mark. — Thahiktoten his mark. Haghyoande his mark. Ayuleaghhulongwea alias Luis Cook his mark. Towaneaghhalife Alias Daniel his mark. Be it Remembered that on this thirteenth day of March in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Eighty Nine appeared before me Jeremiah Lansingh Esquire one of the Masters in Chancery for the State of New York Samuel Kirkland of the State of Massachusetts Bay Clerk who being duly sworn on the holy Evangelists of Almighty God deposed and said that he saw the twenty Six Indians whose names are subscribed to the within written deed of Cession respectively sign seal execute and deliver the same as their voluntary Act in behalf of the Cayuga Nation. That the said Indians were of the said Cayuga Nation and that several of them were Sachems or Chiefs thereof; that he also saw his Excellency George Clinton and the other seven Commissioners whose names are subscribed to the said deed respectively execute the same; that this deponent and Gilbert Livingston John Tayler Philip Van Cortlandt John I. Bleecker and Gerard Bancker respectively subscribed their names as Witnesses to the Execution of the said Deed, and that the Six Indians whose names are also mentioned as present at the Execution of the said Deed made their marks respectively to the said Deed as Witnesses of its Execution. That the said Deed was truly translated and interpreted to the said Indians previous to the Execution [illegible] of. [illegible] I having examined the same and finding no [illegible] or [illegible] lineations therein (except such as are noted Do [illegible] the [illegible] e to be recorded. —

Jer^h: Lansingh —

[illegible] a; [illegible] ing instrument is a tru

of the Original Compared therewith By Me.—
Lewis A: Scott. Secretary

At a Treaty held at Fort Stanwix in the State of New York by his Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the said State, Pierre Van Cortlandt Esquire Lieutenant Governor of the said State, Ezra L'Hommedieu, Abraham Ten Broeck, Peter Gansevoort Junior and Richard Varick Esquires Commissioners authorised for that purpose by and on Behalf of the People of the State of New York with the Sachems Chiefs and Warriors of the tribe or nation of Indians called the Cayugas on the twenty second day of June in the year one thousand seven hundred and Ninety — WE the said Cayugas DO hereby acknowledge to have received from the People of the State of New York the sum of five hundred dollars in Silver being the annual payment stipulated to be made to us the said Cayugas on the first day of June instant in and by certain articles of agreement or deeds of Cession hereunto annexed and executed at the City of Albany by and between the People of the said State by their Commissioners authorised for that purpose and several of the said Cayugas for and in behalf of the said Tribe or Nation and bearing date the twenty fifth day of February in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty Nine. And also the further sum of one thousand dollars as a Benevolence: And We the said Cayugas in consideration thereof DO by these presents fully, freely and absolutely ratify and confirm the said agreement and cession and all and singular the articles covenants matters and things therein expressed and contained on the part of us the said Cayugas done or to be done executed or performed: and We the said Cayugas do further hereby Grant and release [illegible] the State of New York

(att)

Philadelphia April 6th AD 1789

Sir

We have conferred together on the Subject of the Act of Assembly appointing Commissioners on the part of Connecticut to attend a Treaty with the Indians residing on or claiming an Interest in the Lands reserved by the State of Connecticut lying West of the State of Pennsylvania and take liberty to state to your Excellency such facts as in our Judgments are necessary for your information and the Opinions we have formed on the fullest enquiry we have been able to make —— The Indians claiming an Interest in those Lands are the Wyandot & Delaware Tribes besides those some part of the Otawa Chippewa & Seneca Nations and the Munsies are resident thereon and it will be proper they should also be attended to; the total number we are not able to give you with certainty perhaps twelve Hundred altogether — The Treaty with the Indians held at Fort Harmar was finished in January and no other is expected ——

The kind of Goods necessary for the Ind. Treaty usually arrive in the Spring Ships & ought to be purchased in that season — the distance to which they must be transported will take up near Eight weeks in the passage, the portage to Pittsburgh will be one Guinea pr. Hundred Net weight, further on the expence of carriage is trifling —

The Indians at a Treaty must be supplied with Provisions, and three months is the least time we can compute on for collecting them owing to the mode of their transacting business more than the distance from whence they are to come —

The State of Pensylvania have compleated their purchase of the Indians & paid them two Thousand Dollars — we observe the Act of Assembly appropriates One Thousand Dollars only for the purposes intended whether this is intended for purchasing the necessary Goods for the Indians only or is supposed to be also a provision for the expences of transportation Commissioners Messengers

Interpreters & Rations for the Indians during the Treaty we are not informed, of the latter we are fully of Opinion the provision made by the Assembly is so far inadequate for obtaining the designed end that it will be useless to pursue the business unless further provision is made and the three latter Articles of expence the ~~State~~ Assembly could not have contemplated as they expected to have negociated at a Treaty held by the United States ——

The Goods usually applied to these purposes are heavy Articles being principally coarse Goods & the transportation & necessary expences will consume such a part of the sum voted that the presents can amount to a very trifling sum; if the expences are supposed to be otherwise provided for we are of Opinion that it may be proper to attempt a Negociation with the Indians altho' we apprehend the One Thousand Dollars are inadequate to the purposes the State would wish yet we do not wholly despair of success, that sum applied at the time they were receiving large presents from the United States & their payments from Pensylvania would have been much more satisfactory than at this time, yet

it is

from these & other circumstances may be a Means of preventing the Attendance of some one of your Commissioners in which case the Business must intirely stop as the Act of Assembly makes the Attendance of all the Appointment necessary, unless the Assembly should make some further provision on the subject ——— Richard Butler Esqr of Pittsburgh late Super Intendant of Indian Affairs for the United States has great influence over those Tribes of Indians and has been kind enough to Assure us of his aid in Effecting this business if requested.

We are with real Esteem & regard your
Excellency most Obedt humb
Servants
Saml H. Parsons
James Davenport

His Excellency Governor Huntington

N.B. Goods ſuitable for the Indians are of a particular kind and are imported in Aſsortments in the Spring Ships & unleſs purchased ſoon after Arrival a full Aſsortment cannot be procured

S.H.P

Messrs Parson
& J. Davenports } letter
April 6th 1787
recei^d April 23rd 87
re Western Lands

Granville 01 April 1789 —

Dear General,

I have only time at present to say, that I wish you to pay particular attention to the Clearing of the Outlet of the Cannadarque Lake, as it is of importance to the Company to have the Water Navigation opened, early in this Spring — I inclose you a Copy of Colo McKenstrys Contract with Walker to Clear out the Outlet, which you will call on him to fulfill his Contract, and if he does not do it, you must —— the Wood Creek will also want clearing out, so that Boats can pass, and the ferry at the Outlet of Keyuga — outlet will require your attention —— Wish you and Dr Benton to explore that place, and see if some better place cannot be found to get over that out let —— I must beg your attention & Dr Bentons to the business of our Company till an Agent arrives — you will inform the Indians that I shall be there on ye 4 of June & fulfill my Contract with them, tho, I wish you to be carefull not to mention any thing to them to encour=age a treaty, ~~but only to have all the Chiefs~~ as it is my wish not to have a General treaty, but only to have the Chiefs to meet, & receive their pay —

you will see that the Beef that Walker put up is taken care of — your attention

to the business of our Company
shall be rewarded, by Sir your
Most Obed.t
Humble
Serv.t
Oliver Phelps

P.S. pray make me
a good Garden at Canna
daigue. let it Cost what
it will —

Inclosed is the Draft of the Town lots —
also of 20 Acre Lots

Oliver Phelps Esq.r
Letter Gen.l Chapin
April 8th 89 —

Gen.l Chapin

Copy

To The President of the United States
&ca &ca &ca

Brothers

We the Sachems, Chiefs, and Warriors of the Five Nations Aſsembled in Council at our Great Council Fire at Buffaloe Creek, Congratulate you upon Your new System of Government, by which you have one Head to rule, Who we can look to for redreſs in all disputes which have arose or which may Arise between your People and ours —

As you are now at Peace with all Your Neighbours, so we wish also to live in peace with You, and that A friendly intercourſe may subsist between You and us & between Your Children and ours, and in Order to lay a firm Foundation for that, it is Neceſsary first to remove all Subjects of Uneasineſs out of the way and for that Purpose it is that we request You will listen and attend to our Complaints.

Brothers;

We feel ourselves injured by the Number of Council Fires which Your people have Kindled at Different Places to do buſineſs with us, it has always been the Custom with our Forefathers to have one great Council fire kept Burning where to do all Public Buſineſs which respected the Five Nations in General. The King our Father had also one great Council Fire to which we resorted when we had any important matter to Communicate at Buffaloe Creek, ours has long been established & still continues, and there we hold and mean to hold all Treaties in which the General Consultation of the Five Nations is required. & What is done there in Public Council we hold Sacred and Shall always adhere to Strictly. ——

Brothers

The Governor of New York, addreſsd us in a Speech, Dated the 18th of May 1788, inviting us to attend at Fort Schuyler on the 10th Day of July, on Buſineſs of importance to our Mutual Happineſs, at the Same time warned us against holding private Treaties with the Disobedient Children of the States, Contrary to the good old rule and Custom which had always been Observed between Your forefathers and ours. & advis'd us not to let them Settle on the Lands which they had Obtained A Lease of the Fall before, from part of our Chiefs only — Prior to the receipt of the Governors Letter we recd A Letter from Your Commiſsioners to attend A Treaty to be held at Tuskarawas where we were then Preparing to go, Soon after our Departure from home another Meſsage arrived in our Villages informing that the Treaty was to be held in the Fall, at Fort Scuyler Requesting our Chiefs to attend, The Governor was then informed that Chiefs, were gone to the Southward on Public Buſineſs and could not attend till their return, Notwithstanding which the Governor Contrary to the Principles of his advice to us, (at the insti=gation of A Couple of Traders residing in the Villages aſsembled Five Sachems, one Chief warrior, And A few Young men & Women and made a partial purchase of the whole of the Onondago Country, and again last winter with the aſsistance of Peter Ryckman, he Call'd a few individuals together at Albany & made A Still more unjust Purchase of the Cayaga Country without the Consent or even knowledge of A Single Sachem, Chief warrior or Principle Woman of the Five Nations. but from a Small Number of Boys & Girls headed by an Onondago (by extraction) called Deckthaſs the Grandson of an Onondago known by the name of red head he was not looked upon as a Chief with us but Only as a warrior. This we looked upon as fraudulent means of Poſseſing our Country, without Paying the Value or any Part thereof. for the Good of the Nations in Generality whom the lands belong. Such is our wish that Peace & a friendly Intercourse should be established between your People and Ours, that to extricate ourselves from a Similar Embaraſsment O Ball (Corn Planter) had Brought us into, by unauthorised Stretch of Power in Leasing the whole of our County to John Livingston, Made A Sacrifice of Part of our County to ease the Five Nations from that distreſsed dilema (which O Balls imprudence had brought them into) by which you will easily Perceive how Strong our wish has been to avoid Violating the much wish'd for friendship between Your Children and ours, — In June 1788 when we were all Prepaird to attend the Call of Your Commiſsioners on buſineſs to the Southward We received Mr Phelps & Docr Benton at our Council Fire at Buffaloe Creek and Put off our Journey some weeks in Order to have that Interesting Matter Settled in full Council, that no disturbance should arise afterward it was not without much dificulty that we releas'd Part of our County by giving up another Part to accomodate Mr Phelps who had A Legal Authority from the Governor of Maſsachusets to Purchase the Lands and stood ready to hold them upon the lease. if we did not Chuse to treat with him Ourselves. Thus Brothers was the situation we were brought into by the Selfinterest of Individuals on Both Sides without being Previously Consulted upon the Matter, Still loth to infringe on that Chain of Friendship which we rather wished to strengthen than Violate —

Violate, We then in A Public and full Council Sold to Mr Phelps a Large tract of Land on the Genesee River and Confirm'd to Docr Benton and his associates all the Five Nations Country lying East of Mr Phelps's Purchase, those are the People the Governor calls your Disobedient Children. they are your Children Settle the Matter with them as you think Proper, but do not let us be injur'd in Punishing them Notwithstanding they first took to avail themselves of the Lands it was afterwards Confirm'd to them in Public Council at Buffaloe Creek therefore we hold it Sacred and if we are Prid agreeable to the Bargain then made we are Content & shall have no Objections to the Country being settled peaceably. but what has been sold since to the Governor. by our Young men & wrongheaded People Contrary to our Ancient Customs. & in direct Contradiction to the Governor own Language to us and not Confirm'd at our great Council Fire at Buffaloe Creek, we cannot confirm and are Convinc'd you will the impropriety of his Pretentions to Settle his people upon such a slender Title and we presume You will Approve of our Determination to Prevent any Surveys taking Place by Virtue of that Purchase. We were not Desirous of Selling our Lands but after being deceiv'd entirely O Ball, And the intrigues of your People Such was our wish for Peace with our Neighbours that we gave A firm deed to Mr Phelps at the same time, which we also hold sacred & he is now in Quiet Possession of the Lands, as the others might have been had the Governor not interfered in Purchasing the Same Lands from them who had no weight, The 15th day of July Next is the time we are to meet Mr Phelps to receive our Payment and as the Lands are held in General & not in destinct Property we Should Wish to receive our Money from the New York Company at the same time. That one division might serve for the whole but as Contentions have arose amongst your own Children which Prevents

this —

their Coming forward to finish their Busineſs with us we beg you will so far interfere as will remove the Present and prevent further Difficulties from Arising that a friendly intercourſe may again take place and Continue to the Mutual Satisfaction of both your Children and ours that they may sit down in Peace and enjoy the fruits of their Labour. —

We again repeat that it is not our wish to live in Contention with our Neighbours nor do we wish to take our lands back to ourselves but that we may be paid for them agreeable to the Conditions of the Sale made at our Council fire at Buffaloe Creek Last Summer and that (if Posible) at the time we are to receive our Payments from Mr Phelps but should the time be two short for the full Determination of so weighty a Matter we hope you will be able at this time to acknowledge the receipt of this and we wish that in Order to inform Yourselves fully of the measures that have been taken, that you would send Commiſsioners to enquire into the Circumstanceys of these our Complaints and that Peter Ryckman who is well acquainted with all those proceedings and who has himself been A principle instrument in Creating all the Mischief that has been Occasion'd on both sides may also attend with them and when you have the matter Explaind so that you may perfectly understand it We presume that all will be made right and that we will then be enabled to Convince you of the Sincerity & Justice of our Intentions by Strictly adhearing to all Public Treaties we engage in. —

Signed

Buffaloe Creek
2d June 1789

Sharonghyeawanen } in behalf of the
Kagondenayens } Onondago Nation

Ogageghte } in behalf of the
Oghneakwenton } Cayuga Nations

Oghnenayewaghs } in behalf of the
Skendioghkwadigh } Seneca Nation

Jos. Brant (or Tehanawela } in behalf of the Mohawk Nation

Copy
Addreſs to Congreſs
from the Five Nations
Buffaloe Creek 2nd June
1789

Copy 17[illegible]

To the President of the United States

S:a S:ia S:a

Brothers,

We the Sachems, Chiefs, and Warriors of the Five Nations Assembled in Council at our Great Council Fire at Buffaloe Creek, Congratulate You upon Your New System of Government, by which you have one Head to Rule, Who we can look to for redress in all Disputes which have arose or which may arise between Your People and ours —

As you are Now at Peace with all Your Neighbours, so we wish also to live in peace with You, and that a friendly intercourse may Subsist between You and us, & between Your Children and ours, and in Order to lay a Firm Foundation for that it is Necessary first to remove all Subjects of Uneasiness out of the Way and for that Purpose it is that we request You will listen and attend to our Complaints —

Brothers,

We feel ourselves injured by the Number of Council Fires which Your People have Kindled at Different Places to do Business with us, it has always been the Custom with our Forefathers to have one Great Council fire kept Burning & there to do all Public Business which respected the Five Nations in General. The King our Father had also one Great Council fire to which we resorted when we had any important Matter to Communicate at Buffaloe Creek ours has long been established & Still continues, & there we hold and mean to hold all Treaties in which the General Consultation of the

Five

[illegible] in Public Council
we have Saved and State [illegible] adhere to Liberty &c

Brothers The Governor of New York addressed us in a Speech Dated the 15th of May 88 inviting us to attend at Fort Schuyler on the 10th Day of July on Business of importance on Business of importance to our Mutual Happiness at the Same time Warned us against holding Private Treaties with the Disobedient Children of the States Contrary to the Good old rule and Custom which had always been Observed between Your Forefathers and ours & advised us not to let them settle on the Lands which they had Obtained a Lease of the Fall before, from Part of our Chiefs only. Prior to the receipt of the Governors Letter we received a Letter from Your Commissioners to attend a Treaty to be held at [illegible] where we were then Preparing to go, Soon after our Departure from Home another Message arrived in our Villages informing that the Treaty was to be held in the fall at Fort Schuyler, & requesting our Chiefs to attend. The Governor was then informed that our Chiefs were gone to the Southward on Public Business and could not attend till their Return, Notwithstanding Which the Governor, contrary to the Principles of his advice to us (at the instigation of a couple of Traders residing in our Villages) assembled two Sachems, one Chief Warrior and a few Young Men & Women, and made a Partial Purchase of the Whole of the Onondaga Country, and [illegible] with the assistance of Peter Ryckman he called a few individuals together at Albany & made a Still more unjust Purchase of the Cayuga Country without the Consent or even the Knowledge of a Single Sachem Chief Warrior or Principal Woman of the Five Nations, but from a Small Number of Boys and Girls headed by an [illegible] Direction [illegible] the Grandson of an [illegible] known by the Name of [illegible] he was not not looked upon as a Chief with us, but only as a Warrior, This we looked upon as Fraudulent means of Possessing our Country, without Paying the Value or any Part thereof for the Good of the Nations in General to Whom the Lands belong. Such is our Wish that Peace and a Friendly intercourse Should be established between Your People and ours that to extricate ourselves from a Similar embarasment which O'Bale (Cornplanter) had brought us into, by an unauthorised Stretch of Power in Leasing the Whole of our Country to John Livingston, Made a Sacrifice of Part of our Country to ease the Five Nations from that Distressed Dilemma which O'Bales imprudence had brought them into by which You will easily Perceive how strong our Wish has been to avoid Violating the much wished for Friendship between Your Children and ours. In June 1788 when we were all Prepared to attend the Call of Your Commissioners on business to the Southward, We received Mr Phelps & Doctr Benton at our Council fire at Buffaloe Creek and put off our Journey Some Weeks in Order to have that interesting Matter Settled in full Council, that no Disturbance should arise afterwards. it was not without much Difficulty that we released Part of our Country by Giving up another Part to accommodate Mr Phelps, who had a Legal Authority from the Governor of Massachusetts to Purchase the Lands and Stood ready to hold them upon the Lease, if We did not Chuse to Treat with him ourselves. Thus Brothers was the Situation we were Brought into by the Self interest of Individuals on both Sides without being Previously Consulted upon the Matter, said [illegible] to infringe on that Chain of friendship which we rather wished to Strengthen then Violate. We then in a Public and full Council Sold to Mr Phelps a Large tract of Land on the Geneseo River and Confirmed to Doctr Benton and his Associates all the Five Nation Country lying East of Mr Phelps's Purchase. Those are the People the Governor calls Your Disobedient Children, they are Your Children Settle the Matter with them as you think Proper, but do not let us be enforced to Punish them. Notwithstanding they first took to avail themselves of the Lands it was afterwards confirmed to them in Public Council at Buffaloe Creek therefore we hold it Sacred and if we are Paid agreeable to the

Bargain then Made we are Content & shall have no Objections to the Country being Settled Peaceably, but what has been Sold Since to the Governor, by our Young men & Wrong headed people contrary to our ancient Customs was in Direct Contradiction to the Governors own Language, & was not confirmed at our Great Council fire at Buffaloe Creek, We cannot confirm, and we are convinced You will see the impropriety of his Pretentions to Settle his People upon such a Slender Title and we Presume You will Approve of our Determination to prevent any Surveys taking Place by Virtue of that Purchase, We were not Desirous of selling our Lands but after being deceived into the Belief & the intrigues of Your People, Such was our Wish for peace with our Neighbours that we gave a fair Deed to Mr Phelps, at the Same time which we also hold sacred & he is now in Quiet Possession of the Lands, as the Others might have been had the Governor not have interfered, in Purchasing the Same Lands from them who had no right to Sell it, The 15th day of July Next is the time we are to Meet Mr Phelps to receive our Payments — and as the Lands are held in General & not in Distinct Property we should Wish to receive our Money from the New York Company at the Same time, that one Reason might Serve for the Whole — but as Contentions have arose amongst Your own Children which Prevents them coming forward to finish their Business with us, we beg You will so far interfere as will remove the present & Prevent further Difficulties from arising, that a friendly intercourse may again take Place, and Continue to the Mutual Satisfaction of both Your Children & ours, that they may Set down in Peace and enjoy the fruits of their Labour.

We again repeat that it is not our wish to live in contention with our Neighbours, nor do we wish to take our Lands back to ourselves, but that we may be paid for them agreeable to the Conditions of the Sale made at our Council fire at Buffalo Creek Last Summer, and that (if Possible) at the time we are to receive our Payments from Mr Phelps, but should the time be too short for the full Determination of so Weighty a Matter we wishe

You will be able at this time to acknowledge the receipt of this and We wish that in Order to inform Yourselves fully of the Measures that have been taken, that You would Send Commissioners to enquire into the Circumstances of these our Complaints, and that Peter Ryckman who is well acquainted with all those Proceedings and who has Himself been a Principle instrument in Creating all the Mischief that has been Occasioned on Both Sides, may also attend with them and When You have the Matter explained so that You perfectly understand it, We Presume that all Will be made right and that we will then be enabled to Convince You of the Sincerity and Justice of our intentions by Strictly Adhering to all Public Treaties we engage in —

Buffaloe Creek 2d June 1789 (Signed)

Sharongkyawanen } in Behalf of the Onondago
Kayondenayen } Nation — —

Orayeghte } in Behalf of the Cayuga
Oghnekawaton } Nation —

Oghnenrayewaghs } in Behalf of the
Kendiorhkwadigh } Seneca Nation

Jos. Brant (or Tekanaueta) } in Behalf of the Mohawk Nation &c. &c. &c.

Addreſs to Congreſs
from the Five Nations

Buffaloe Creek 2d June
1789

Copy

To His Excellency the Governor of the State of New York &c. &c. &c.

Brother

We have been informed of the Purchases you have made (from some of our Young Men) both of the Onondago & Cayuga Country, and we have Considered long and Seriously upon the Consequences that may arise from Suffering individuals without authority to Dispose of Property that was given by the Great Spirit, to our Forefathers and handed down by them to their Children, the Five Nations in General.

We have not been hard With the White People Who have made a fair and Open Application for Lands, but we have accomodated them and held the Sales Sacred, because it was done in full Council & at a Proper Place but What is Partially Purchased and at improper Places from individuals we are bound by the ancient Customs of our Forefathers to Disapprove of.

We did not expect that You, after advising us to shun private Treaties with Individuals and avoid selling our Lands to Your disobedient Children, that You Would Yourself Purchase Lands from a few of our Wrong headed Young men, Without the Consent or Knowledge of the Chiefs therefore we have at Present only to Communicate our Disapprobation of those Sales & request that You will not make any further Settlements or Surveys on the Lands untill the Money is Paid as agreeable to the Sale Made at Buffaloe Creek Last Summer,

It is not that we have any Objection to You having the Lands, it is equal to us who Possesses it, as we have Sold it in Public Council, at our Council fire at Buffaloe Creek, like men and do not wish to Deviate

from

come in and take us by the Hand. About three o'Clock they were assembled in the Council house Viz. the Six Nations except the Mohawks, the Senecas, the Wyandots, the Delawares the Ottawas, the Chippewas, the Pottawatamies and Sacs. The Governor attended by the Commissioners of Pennsylvania Viz. Generals Butler & Gibson, and General Harmar, and the Officers of the Garrison and a Number of Gentlemen, proceeded to the Council house, and being seated, Dauentete the Chief of the Wyandots rose and addressed the Governor in the Name of all the Nations present, to the follow

That they rejoiced that the Great Spirit had enabled them to come to this place to meet their Brothers the United States. It gave them much Satisfaction to see them in a friendly Manner, that their hearts were good as they hoped ours were, and that every thing that was done at this Meeting would be for mutual benefit which was the wish of all the Nations; that they had more to say to their Brothers, but as the day was near spent they would defer it until another Opportunity; for the present they would only take them by the Hand in token of friendship.—

(A String of Wampum)—

the,

from it their Children, but we expect to be Paid the Money we have agreed for with Doct.r Benton and to have the Distribution of it ourselves and not that a few Individuals shall run away with the Whole, to the Prejudice of all the Five Nations and to the Disgrace of us your —

Brothers

(Signed)

Buffaloe Creek 2d June 1789 —

Sharonghyawaren } in Behalf of the
Tagondenayen } Onondago Nation

Ojegeghte } in Behalf of the
Oghnekeventen } Cayuga Nation

Oghnenrayenwaghs } in Behalf of the
Skanehashkewadeghk } Seneca Nation

Jos. Brant (Tekanaweh) in behalf of
the Mohawk Nation &c. &c. &c.

Letter from the Five Nations
To His Excellency the Governor
of the State of New York
Buffaloe Creek 2d June
1789

(Copy)

June 2d
1789

To His Excellency the Governor of the State of New York
&ca &ca &ca

Brother

We have been informed of the purchases You have made (from some of our Young men) both of the Onondaga & Cayuga Country, and we have Considered long and Seriously upon the Consequences that may arise from Suffering Individuals (without authority) to Dispose of property that was given by the Great Spirit, to our Forefathers and handed down by them to their Children, the Five Nations in General.

We have not been hard with the White people Who have made a fair and open Application for Lands, but we have accomodated them, and hold the sales, sacred, because it was done in full Council & at a proper place, but what is partially purchased and at improper places from individuals we are Bound by the Ancient Customs of our Forefathers to Disapprove of.

We did not expect that You, after advising us to shun private Treaties with Individuals and avoid Selling our Lands to Your disobedient Children, that You would Yourself purchase Lands from a few of our Wrong headed Young men, Without the Consent or knowledge of the Chiefs, therefore we have at present only to communicate our disapprotion of those Sales & request that you will not make any further Settlements or Surveys on the Lands untill the Money is paid us agreeable to the Sale Made at Buffaloe Creek Last Summer.

It is not that we have any Objection to Your having the Lands, it is Equal to us who possesses it, as we have Sold it in public Council, at our Council fire at Buffaloe Creek, like men, and do not wish to Deviate from it Like Children but we Expect to be paid the Money we there agreed for with Doct. Benton and to have the Distribution of it ourselves and not that a few Individuals shall run away with the whole, to the Prejudice of all the five Nations, and to the disgrace of us Your Brothers.

(Sign'd)

Buffaloe Creek }
2d June 1789 }

Sharonghyauaner } In Behalf of the
Kagondenazen } Onondaga Nation

Ojegeghte - - } In Behalf of the
Oghnaokwenton } Cayuga Nation

Oghnenrayewaghs - } In Behalf of the
Skondioghkevadegh - } Seneca Nation

Jos: Brant (or Tekanawela) } In Behalf of the Mohawk Nation &ca &ca &ca

June 2d
1789

Copy.

To the President of the United States,

Brothers.

We the Sachems, Chiefs, and Warriors of the Five Nations Assembled in Council at our Great Council fire at Buffaloe Creek Congratulate You upon Your New System of Government, by which You have one Head to Rule. Who we can look to for redress in all disputes which have arose or which may arise between Your people and ours ——

As Your are now at peace with all Your Neighbours, so we wish also to live in peace with You, and that a friendly intercourse may Subsist between you and us, & between Your Children and ours, and in order to lay a firm foundation for that it is Necessary first to remove all subjects of Uneasiness out of the way & for that purpose it is that we request You will listen and attend to our Complaints. —

Brothers. We feel ourselves injured by the Number of Council Fires which Your People have Kindled at Different places to do Business with us, it has always been the Custom with our Forefathers to have one Great Council fire kept Burning and there to do all public Business which respected the five Nations in General The King our father had also one Great Council fire to which we resorted when we had any important Matter to Communicate, at Buffaloe Creek ours has long been Established & still Continues, and there we hold and mean to hold all Treaties in which the General Consultations of the Five Nations is required and what is done there in public Council we hold Sacred and shall always adhere to Strictly.—

Brothers,

The Governor of New York addressed us in a Speech Dated the 18th of May, 1788, inviting us to attend at Fort Schuyler on the 10th Day of July on Business of importance to our Mutual Happiness at the same time Warned us against holding private Treaties with the Disobedient Children of the States, Contrary to the Good old rule and Custom which had always been Observed between Your Forefathers and ours, and advised us not to let them Settle on the Lands which they had Obtained a Lease of the fall before, from part of our Chiefs only.—

Prior to the receipt of the Governors letter we received a Letter from Your Commissioners to attend a Treaty to be held at Tuskarawas where we were then preparing to go. Soon after our Departure from Home another Message arrived in our Villages informing that the Treaty was to be held in the fall at Fort Schuyler and requesting our Chiefs to attend, The Governor was then informed that our Chiefs, were gone to the Southward on Public Business and could not attend till their Return. Notwithstanding which the Governor contrary to the principles of his advice to us (at the instigation of a Couple of Traders residing in our Villages) assembled two Sachems one Chief Warrior, and a few Young men & women & made a partial purchase of the whole of the Onondaga Country, and again last winter with the assistance of

Peter Ryckman, he called a few individuals together at Albany and made a still more unjust purchase of the Cayuga Country, without the Consent or even the Knowledge of a Single Sachem, Chief Warrior or principle Woman of the Five Nations, but from a Small Number of Boys and Girls, headed by an Onondaga (by Extraction) called steel-trap the Grandson of an Onondaga known by the name of Red head, he was not looked upon as a Chief with us, but only as a Warrior, This we looked upon as Fraudulent means of possessing our Country, without paying the Value or any part thereof, for the good of the Nations in General to whom the Lands belong, such is our wish that peace and a friendly intercourse should be established between Your people and ours, that to extricate ourselves from a Similar embarasment which O. Bale, (Corn planter) had brought us into, by an unauthorised Streech of power in Leasing the Whole of our Country to John Livingston, Made a Sacrafice of part of our Country to ease the five Nations from that Distressed Dilemna (which O. Bales impudence had brought them into) by which you will easily perceive how Strong our wish has been to avoid Violating the much wished for friendship between Your Children and ours, In June 1788 when we were all prepared to attend the Call of your Commissioners on Business to the Southward, We received Mr. Phelps & Doctr. Benton at our Council fire at Buffaloe Creek and put off our

Journey some weeks in order to have that interesting Matter Settled in full Council, that no Disturbance Should arise afterwards, it was not without much dificulty that we released Part of our Country by Giving up another part to accomode Mr. Phelps, who had a Legal Authority from the Governor of Maſsachusets to purchase the Lands, and stood ready to hold them upon the Lease, if we did not Chuse to treat with him ourselves, Thus Brothers was the Situation we were Brought into by the Self interest of Individuals on both Sides, without being previously Consulted upon the Matter, Still loth to infringe on that Chain of friendship which we rather wished to Strengthen than Violate, We then in a public and full Council Sold to Mr. Phelps a Large tract of Land on the Genesea River and Confirmed to Doct. Benton and his Aſsociates all the Five Nations Country lying east of Mr. Phelps's purchase These are the people the Governor calls Your Disobedient Children, they are Your Children, Settle the Matter with them as You think proper, but do not let us be injured to punish them. Notwithstanding they first took to avail themselves of the Lands it was afterwards confirmed to them in public Council at Buffaloe Creek Therefore we hold it Sacred and if we are paid agreeable to the Bargain then made we are content and shall have no Objections to the Country being Settled peaceably, but what has been sold since to the Governor, by our Young men and wrong headed people contrary to our ancient Customs, and in direct Contradiction to the Governors own Language, to us and not confirmed at our Great Council fire at Buffaloe Creek. We cannot conform, and we are convinced You will see the impropriety of his pretensions to settle ~~Settle~~ his people upon such a Slender Title, and we presume You will Approve of our Determination to prevent any Surveys takeing Place by Virtue of that Purchase. We were not Desirous of Selling our Lands, but after being Deceived intirely by D. Bale & the intrigues of Your people Such was our wish for peace with our Neighbours that we gave a firm Deed to Mr. Phelps, at the same time which we also hold sacred & he is now in Quiet possession of the Lands, as the others might have been had the Governor not have interfered in Purchasing the Same Lands from them who had no right to Sell it, The 15th. day of July Next is the time we are to meet Mr. Phelps to receive our payments, and as the Lands are held in General & not in Distinct property we should wish to receive our Money from the New York Company at the Same time, That one Division might Serve for the Whole but as Contentions have arose amongst Your Children which prevents their coming forward to finish their Business with us, we beg You will so far interfere as will remove the present & prevent further Difficulties from arising, that a friendly intercourse may again take place, and continue to the mutual Satisfaction of both your Children and ours. That they may set down in peace and enjoy the fruits of their Labour. —

We again repeat that it is not our wish to live in contention with our Neighbours, nor do we wish to take our Lands back to ourselves, but that we may be paid for them agreeable to the Conditions of the Sale made at our Council fire at Buffalo Creek last Summer, and that (if possible) at the same time we are to receive our payments from Mr Phelps, but Should the time be too Short for the full Determination of so Weighty a Matter we hope You will be able at this time to acknowledge the receipt of this and we wish that in order to inform Yourselves fully of the Measures that have been taken, that You would send Commissioners to enquire into the Circumstances of these our Complaints, and take Peter Ryckman who is well acquainted with all these proceedings and who has himself been a principle instrument in Creating all the Mischief that has been Occasioned on both Sides, may also attend with them and when you have the Matter explained so that you perfectly understand it, We presume that all will be made right & that we will then be enabled to Convince you of the Sincerity and justice of our intentions by strictly adhering to all Public Treaties we engage in. —

(Sign'd) Saramghyawanen
Kagondenayon } In behalf of the Onondaga Nations. —

Tjagoghte —
Oghniekwenton } In Behalf of the Cayuga Nations. —

Oghnenrayowaghte —
Skendioghkwadigh } In Behalf of the Seneca Nations —

Buffalo Creek
2d June 1789 }

Jos: Brant, or Tekanawatah } In behalf of the Mohawks Nations
&ca &ca &ca

Quebec 22 June 1789.

Sir

I have received the Extract of Lieut. Coll. Butlers report to you of the 14 April last, and the proceedings of a Council with the Chiefs, of the Six Nations and Delawares, at Niagara on the 10th of February.

I am very glad to find that the differencies which had arisen in the Mohawk Nation are laid aside, and that peace and harmony is re-established among them. — Captains Brant, David, Aaron & Isaac, are all good men, to whom I wish well, and therefore I wish they may long live in peace and friendship together, as they have promised, that they may be the ornament of their own Nation and an example to others

Captn. Brant ought to understand, that nothing personal with regard to him was decided in his absence, that all such matters were left to be settled in Council after his return, which has now been happily effected, and that he has no reason to be dissatisfied with the answer given to Captains Aaron and Isaac.

As it appeared clearly from the papers, that the Lands upon the Grand-River were promised by Genl. Haldimand to the Six Nations in General, his presence could not be necessary to decide upon that fact.

It is indifferent by what Authority the White people were placed there. Whenever they become the cause of enmity and discord among the Six Nations they must be removed. — Should any Whites now sit down upon these Lands with the unanimous consent of the Six Nations, and some Years hence be the occasion of unhappiness to them, they must be removed. — This is a Rule absolutely necessary for the comfort of the Indians, and for the preservation of their Peace; and common Justice requires it should be so.

The Lands were promised to the Six Nations & their posterity.

They as a People are to have the free use and possession of them; and to them they shall be confirmed and secured in a distinct and permanent manner.— The Writings necessary for that purpose, shall be prepared and sent to you for their consideration, that they may speak their minds upon what is intended to be done, and propose such matters, as they may think just and reasonable, which if they are found to be so, shall be complied with, and a Law be made afterwards, to secure the free possession of the said Lands to the Six Nations and their posterity for ever.

As to the Indians of the Bay of Quinte I do by no means detain them they may remove or stay as they like best; If they chose to stay their Lands shall be confirmed to them in the same manner as those of the Grand-River. If they choose to remove I have no objection I have no wish or Interest in either but their own comfort and good liking. But I do not find that any promise ever was made that the Lands Westward of the River La Trenche should not be settled by White People.

It is not in our power to supply the Indians at the River and at the Buffaloe-Creek with Provisions, as we are in great want ourselves, But I approve of a Seine being given to each of those Settlements if you think it reasonable.—

I am with regard

Your most Obedient Servt.

(Signed) Dorchester

To

Sir John Johnston Bart.

364

Quebec 22 June 1789

Copy of Lord Dorchesters
Letter
to
Sir John Johnson Bart.

1754

[illegible] P. Q. Canada, 1787

This Indenture made and concluded the Ninth day of July in the Year of [illegible] thousand seven hundred and eighty [illegible] between the [illegible] Indians formerly belonging to the Mohawk Castle at Fort Hunter, in the late County of Tryon now Montgomery but now of in the Province of Quebec whose names are subscribed and Seals affixed to these Presents of the first Part, And the People of the State of New York of the second Part, Witnesseth that the said Partys of the first part, for and in consideration of the Sum of Seven Hundred pounds. lawfull money of the State of New York to the said Partys of the first part, by the said Party of the second part in hand paid at and before the ensealing and delivery of these presents, the Receipt whereof is hereby confessed and acknowledged Have and each of them hath, granted, bargained, Sold, alien'd remised and released and by these Presents do and each of them doth Grant, Bargain, Sell, alien, Remise and Release and Conform, unto the said Party of the second Part in their actual possession now being, and to their Heirs, Executors, Administrators and assigns for EVER. All their Right Estate, Title interest and Demand whatsoever, of, in, and to, All that certain Tract of Land, Situate, lying and being on the South side of the Mohawk River, in the late County of Tryon, now Montgomery in the State of New York. Beginning at the North west corner of Babingtons Patent on the Mohawk River, from thence up the River, to Aries Creek or the [illegible] Corner of Capt. Scotts Lands and from thence round the several Patents until ~~[illegible] Babingtons Patent~~ and from thence to the place of beginning, Comprehending all the Lands claimed by us (the Indians late of Fort Hunter Castle) on the South side of the Mohawk River, together with the Appurtenances. To have and to hold the said Premises with the Appurtenances unto the said Party of the second Part, their Heirs and Assigns, For ever. To the only use and behoof of the said party of the second Part Their Heirs & Assigns. For Ever.

In Witness whereof the Partys have hereunto sett their hands and Seals at Nassau the Day and Year first above written

Signed, Sealed & Delivered
In Presence of

Ralfe Clinch

Hendrick Hill

Capt. Jos Brant

Peter P. Schuyler

Henry his + mark Maracle

Nicholas his + mark Forbuss

W. Bethuhan

Kayadontye
Peggy young

Johannes his + mark

Crine his mark
Oshnawedoghgwa

Centinelogua
Israel his mark

Taweetrawea
alias John his mark

yakoiwene
Jemima

Degoraghjade
Lydia

gonwerenagoraghsori
Susannah

Dewathachea dons
Old Lydia

Karaghgwine
Catharine

Arichgwagh
Elizabeth

waoghnodon
Katerine

sayawea ra
Rebecca

David Hill
Karonghyontye

Easter Hill
Degaeathghgua

young Brant

Agowanagh the
[illegible]

[illegible]

aghsigwarisera
[illegible] Jane

A jweveng
Abraham

Henry Aaron Hill
Genwradehon

Christian Hill Kanyaen

[illegible]

Satahakewa Thomas

Ochnowra Daniel

De se ren tyon
Capt. John

Ohase Crine
Abraham Crine

[illegible]
Capt. Aaron Hill

Anonsategea
Seth Capt. Isaac

kanenhaveyowa
Seth Junr

Donwisyowu
Thomas

Oraghwatera his + mark Lawrence

a gui ra oght se
Lowries

Kanunant
Henry Hill

Malegoyt
Molly Hill

Elizabeth

Degaeonwaeganigon
Rebecca

[illegible]
Susannah Hill

Kaunlagaragh
Peter young

Jawaienon
Catharine

I Do Certify that the above instrument of Writeing was executed in my presence by the Sachems. Chiefs & principle Men & Women of the Mohawks formerly of Fort Hunter castle they being the true and real Proprietors of the above described Lands.

John Butler
Deputy Supt. of
Indian affairs

The Above Writeing was duly Executed in full Council in Witness whereof we have hereunto sett the Seal of our Nation

Capt. Jos Brant
in behalf of the Canajoharees

Capt. David Hill
in behalf of the Mohawk

BUREAU OF AMERICAN ETHNOLOGY
MANUSCRIPT VAULT
OCT [illegible] 1934

ENDORSEMENT

a Deed from the Indians for the [illegible] at Fort Hunter to [illegible]

This Indenture made and concluded the Ninth day of July in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven hundred and Eighty nine between the native Indians formerly belonging to the Mohawk Castle at Fort Hunter, in the late County of Tryon now Montgomery but now residing in the Province of Quebec whose names are subscribed and Seals affixed to these Presents of the First Part. And the People of the State of New York of the second Part, Witneſseth that the said Party of the first part, for and in Consideration of the Sum of Seven Hundred pounds lawfull money of the State of New York to the said Partys of the first part, by the said Party of the second part in hand paid at and before the ensealing and Delivery of these presents, the Receipt whereof is hereby confeſsed and acknowledged Have and each of them hath granted, [illegible] aliened remised and released and by these Presents do and each of them doth Grant, Bargain, Sell, alien, Remise and Release and [illegible] unto the said Party of the second Part in their actual poſseſsion now being, and to their Heirs, Executors, Administrators and Aſsigns for ever, All their Right Estates Title Interest and Demand whatsoever, of, in, and to, All that certain Tract of Land, Situate, lying and being on the South side of the Mohawk River, in the late County of Tryon now Montgomery in the State of New York. Beginning at the North west corner of Babington's Patent on the Mohawk River, from thence up the River, to Aries Creek or the East Corner of Capt. [illegible] Lands, and from thence round the several Patents unto Babington's Patent, and from thence to the place of beginning, Comprehending all the Lands claimed by us the Indians late of Fort Hunter Castle, on the South side of the Mohawk River, together with the Appurtenances. To have and to hold the said Premises, with the Appurtenances unto the said Party of the second Part, their Heirs and Aſsigns, For Ever. To the only use and behoof of the said party of the second Part, their Heirs & Aſsigns for ever.

In Witneſs whereof the Partys have hereunto sett their hands and Seals at Naſsau the Day and Year first above written

Signed, Sealed & Delivered } In Presence of

Ralfe Clench

[illegible] Dick

Jos. Wood

John [illegible] Schuyler

his [illegible] mark

Nicholas his Forbes mark

[illegible] Thakon

Kayedontye
Peggy Young her mark

Johannes his mark

Crine
Cannanwedaghques his mark

Contioutiquaa
Isaac his mark

Tewestaraes
alias John his mark

Wakonwen
Jemima

Tegoreghpose
Lydia

Yewaronnageraghton
Susannah

Cwitkagaronwens
Lydia

Karaghjutene
Catharina

Ariateyuregh
Elizabeth

Waondiwon
Katharine

Soyowenthe
Rebecca

David Hill
Karonghyontye

Isaac Hill
Deyaeathagtgwa

young Brant

Ayewanaghtha

Kaydatin
Tewagteatatha

aghsigwarisera
Tawet Hano

Ajwrenghte
Abraham

Henry Aaron Hill
Gearweadeston

Christian Hill Hanyaron

[illegible]
Aronnisgore

Talahdeum Thomas his mark

[illegible] Jannie her mark

[illegible]
Capt. John

Aobam Crine
Abraham

[illegible]
Capt. Aaron Hill

Uwonaghtea his mark
Capt. Isaac

Lanenkareyaoria
Seth Hunt

Tonwisyeru
Thomas

Crayhwatea Lawrence his mark

Agwiroegtse
Lowries

Hanniment
Henry Hill

Kalyoyagt
Molly Hill

Elizabeth

Dogaonwagayoig
Rebecca

Sijaneahte
Susannah Hill

Wonantagwaroaghl
Peter Young

Jawedienon
Catherine

I Do Certify that the above instrument of Writing was executed in my presence by the Sachems, Chiefs & [illegible] Men & Women of the Mohawks formerly of Fort Hunter [illegible] being the true and real Proprietors of the above descri[bed]

John Butler
Dept. Supt. of
Indian affairs

The above Writing was duly Executed in the Council In Witneſs whereof we have hereunto [illegible] the Seal of our Nation

Capt. Jos. Brant
in behalf of the [illegible]

Capt. David Hill
in behalf of the Mohawks

Supplementary to Phelps and Gorham's Treaty of Buffalo Creek.

We the sachems, chiefs, and warriors of the Mohawk, Onondago, Cuyahuga, and Tuscarora nations, for ourselves, and in behalf of the four nations aforesaid, have heard read and explained, in public council at this place, the papers passed between Oliver Phelps, Esq., and the Five Nations of Indians, in full and public council, at our great council fire, at Buffalo Creek in July, 1788; and find said papers conformable to the agreement then and there made, between said Phelps and the said Five Nations, and do hereby ratify and confirm said agreement, as being fairly and properly done, agreeable to the ancient customs of our forefathers; and having given up to the Seneca nation, our several proportions of the payment now due and offered to the said Five Nations by said Phelps, in a just and proper manner, in a full council of the Five Nations, viz: Two thousand five hundred dollars in cash and two thousand five hundred dollars value in goods, we hereby quit all claims, right, title, or demand whatsoever, to all that certain tract, parcel, land, and territory, purchased from the Five Nations, by said Phelps, agreeable to the deeds given him, the said Phelps, by the Five Nations aforesaid, at Buffalo Creek; and to all moneys, goods, or other payments whatsoever, due by said Phelps for said lands, except always reserving our just share and proportion of five hundred dollars, the annual rent to be paid on said lands forever.

Given under our hands and seals at Canandaigua this 4th day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine.

Sharonyewanen,

Kagondenayen,

Tchodageranden,

Ojageghte,

Karonyageten,

Skagoyeghwatha,

Tewaghtagote,

Tekaraghke,

Otstenragongh,

Karonghyontye,

Thayendanegea.

This might be brought about by making presents, from time to time, to the chiefs or their wives, of sheep and other domestic animals; and if, in the first instance, persons were appointed to take charge, and teach the use of them, a considerable part of the difficulty would be surmounted.

In the administration of the Indians, every proper expedient that can be devised to gain their affections, and attach them to the interest of the Union, should be adopted. The British Government had the practice of making the Indians presents of silver medals and gorgets, uniform clothing, and a sort of military commission. The possessors retained an exclusive property to these articles; and the Southern Indians are exceedingly desirous of receiving similar gifts from the United States, for which they would willingly resign those received from the British officers. The policy of gratifying them cannot be doubted.

Missionaries, of excellent moral character, should be appointed to reside in their nation, who should be well supplied with all the implements of husbandry, and the necessary stock for a farm.

These men should be made the instruments to work on the Indians; presents should commonly pass through their hands, or by their recommendations. They should, in no degree, be concerned in trade, or the purchase of lands, to rouse the jealousy of the Indians. They should be their friends and fathers.

Such a plan, although it might not fully effect the civilization of the Indians, would most probably be attended with the salutary effect of attaching them to the interest of the United States.

It is particularly important that something of this nature should be attempted with the Southern nations of Indians, whose confined situation might render them proper subjects for the experiment.

The expense of such a conciliatory system may be considered as a sufficient reason for rejecting it;

But, when this shall be compared with a system of coercion, it would be found the highest economy to adopt it.

The commanding officers of the troops on the frontiers of the Southern and Northern districts, as they possess the sword, should be the Indian agents, and for which they should have a consideration.

Every article given to the Indians should be accounted for, and witnessed by two commissioned officers.

The commanding officer should not receive any presents from the Indians, but, in every respect, conduct towards them in the most friendly and just manner.

All which is humbly submitted to the President of the United States. H. KNOX.

War Office, *July* 7, 1789.

1st Congress.] No. 3. [1st Session.

THE SIX NATIONS, THE WYANDOTS, AND OTHERS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE AUGUST 12, 1789.

The committee to whom was referred the message of the President of the United States, of the 25th of May, 1789, with the Indian treaties, and papers accompanying the same, report:

That the Governor of the Western territory, on the 9th day of January, 1789, at fort Harmar, entered into two treaties; one with the sachems and warriors of the Six Nations, the Mohawks excepted, the other with the sachems and warriors of the Wyandot, Delaware, Ottawa, Chippewa, Pattawatima, and Sac Nations; that those treaties were made in pursuance of the powers and instructions heretofore given to the said Governor by the late Congress, and are a confirmation of the treaties of fort Stanwix, in October, 1784, and of fort McIntosh, in January, 1785, and contain a more formal and regular conveyance to the United States, of the Indian claims to the lands yielded to these States by the said treaties of 1784 and 1785.

Your committee, therefore, submit the following resolution, to wit:

That the treaties concluded at fort Harmar, on the 9th day of January, 1789, between Arthur St. Clair, Esq. Governor of the Western territory, on the part of the United States, and the sachems and warriors of the Six Nations, (the Mohawks excepted) and the sachems and warriors of the Wyandot, Delaware, Ottawa, Chippewa, Pattawatima, and Sac Nations, be accepted, and that the President of the United States be advised to execute and enjoin an observance of the same.

1st Congress.] No. 4. [1st Session.

THE SOUTHERN TRIBES.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE AUGUST 22, 1789.

The President of the United States came into the Senate Chamber, attended by General Knox, and laid before the Senate the following statement of facts, with the questions thereto annexed, for their advice and consent:

To conciliate the powerful tribes of Indians in the Southern district, amounting probably to fourteen thousand fighting men, and to attach them firmly to the United States, may be regarded as highly worthy of the serious attention of Government.

The measure includes, not only peace and security to the whole southern frontier, but is calculated to form a barrier against the colonies of an European Power, which, in the mutations of policy, may one day become the enemy of the United States. The fate of the Southern States, therefore, or the neighboring colonies, may principally depend on the present measures of the Union towards the Southern Indians.

By the papers which have been laid before the Senate, it will appear, that, in the latter end of the year 1785, and the beginning of 1786, treaties were formed by the United States with the Cherokees, the Chickasaws, and Choctaws. The report of the commissioners will show the reasons why a treaty was not formed at the same time with the Creeks.

It will also appear by the papers, that the States of North Carolina and Georgia protested against said treaties, as infringing their legislative rights, and being contrary to the confederation. It will further appear by the said papers, that the treaty with the Cherokees has been entirely violated by the disorderly white people on the frontiers of North Carolina.

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Proceedings of a Meeting of the Principal Chiefs of the Onondagoes, Cayugas & Mohawks —

Niagara 15th August 1789 —

Present Lt Col Harris Comm.g the Upper Posts and Lieut Colonel Butler Dep.y Agent — After the Usual Ceremonies had passed.

The Fish Carrier, Complimented Col. Harris on his return to this Country after his long Absence, and Proceeded

Brothers

You (Colonel Butler) was present and knew what was agreed upon at the Council at Buffaloe Creek last Summer when we Sold our Lands to the Americans, & that we were to receive the Payment at a Time then fixed, which the Whol of the Five Nations were to Share in, But we have been When we went to receive our Shares at Canadaque (the place appointed, we were much surprised to find that the Senecas had excluded all the Other Nations, from receiving any part of the Payment for the Lands, and told us that the Lands belonged to them alone, therefore the Other Nations had no right to expect any thing, as the Onondagoes & Cayugas had before Sold their Country and kept the Money to themselves and Desired us to go to our Friends the English as we had no Business there, They also said that the Papers in the Security of the Payment, either by Col Butler, Mr Stree Mr Kirkland, Capt Brant, or a Mr Dean, as the Sums mentioned in the Papers was less then what was first agreed upon at the Council at Buffaloe Creek, After this O Bale, was endeavoring to Persuade the Senecas not to take the Money but to go and refer the Matter to Congress ~~This~~ & Who would see them Justified, this Scheme of OBale we Opposed thinking it much against the Interest of the Five Nations and therefore advised them to take the Money which we looked upon as Just, & that the Sums was agreeable to the Oregenal Bargain Made at Buffaloe Creek, and told them that we did not want any Share ourselves and Only asked for Provisions to carry us home;

Brothers,

About this time we receiv'd an Answer to a letter we had Wrote to Governor Clinton but not a Satisfactory one for he Still looks upon the Unjust Purchase he made from a few of our Young People to be Good and Valid & Says he is Determined to Hold it fast. and that if we hinder the Surveyors in their Busi he will Look upon it as a Hostile intention and that we mean to Quarrel with him, We Now intend to Warn the Governor again as we Did before & to tell him that we see throug his Artifice in reserving small tracts of Lands to the Indi by which he hopes to Divide and Weaken us, but this we will endeavour to Prevent by Sending for our People who are there to Move off to us, & we have Sent Belts to the Surveyors not to Proceed untill this Matter is Settled to our Satisfaction, We are Sorry that our Brothers the Sen should differ from us in Opinion and even reflect upon us for our firm Attachment to the English which they have Now done so Openly, that we hope our Brothers the English will see their true friends and make the Difference accordingly in What is Given us

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Proceedings of a Meeting
of the Principle Chiefs of
the Onondagos, Cayugas
& Mohawks,

Niagara 15th August
1789

Proceedings of a Council Held at Buffalo Creek between the Five Nations and the War Chiefs of the Cherokee and Shawanese Indians.

7th Sepr 1789.

The Chiefs of the Cherokees addressed the Five Nations as follows. (after the usual Ceremonies of Condolence had Passed)

Brothers,

About three Years ago we sent Messengers to You but have since heard Nothing of them. We are now come to see what is become of them. We have received our Council fire from You and looked up to You for advice, which we have constantly followed, and also took up the Hatchet from You as well as by desire of the English, to Defend our Lands, and wish still to attend to Your Advice. You have lately made our Alliance Stronger, When we agreed if the Virginians Struck one of us we were all to rise & Join against them, they have now encroached upon us and Destroyed our Council fire Place, but we have Opposed them with Success in their Engagements which was only Play but we now mean to Join and act in earnest against the enemy. We expected that You the Five Nations looked up only to the King our Father, but we Now find that You turn Your Ears with the Americans and talk with them. We Hope You will Change Your Minds and be of our Opinion to Oppose those Land encroachers, & we Now expect Your Answer Openly, and also one from the English.

Speech of the Shawanese. A Painted String of Black Wampum:

Brothers,

We the Shawanese from the Miamis Villages listen to us the War Chiefs and attend to what we are a going to Say, when we went from the Miami Council last Fall and expected to come to some agreement with the Americans in Order to fix a Boundary line between us we were Disappointed, then You left the Management of the Affairs of our Confederacy to ourselves and gave us Your best advice that we might carry on Matters Prudently, which we Gladly received

You likewise gave Your Opinion that we should again Offer them terms, but the Americans being naturally So encroaching upon us that we thought it would answer no purpose and having no Inclination to Offer them, which we thought our Duty to acquaint the Other Nations with and most of them have United with us against them, —

Four Strings of Wampum

Brothers

You likewise told us last fall when we agreed to do the Business of the Confederacy which You the Six Nations had done before, that we were to attend ourselves and not to send Messages; We Now attend & beg You will not think from our Small number & few Strings that it is not the Whole that Speaks to You it is the Voice of all the Miamis Nations, therein attend. We should have concluded this Business sooner but the Delay was occasioned by a Huron Named Sayentaghe who was the means of Stopping our Belts at Eeks Heart Village, these Belts were going to the Different Western Nations, but we have Now Resent it So that our Business will go on through two Channels one by the Way of Michilimakinac & the Other through the Western Country. There are only two People who Wish, but cannot stop our Business as we can carry it on Without them. We now Declare that we mean to adhere Strictly to the Confederacy by which only we can become a People of Consequence, and are sorry to Say that Some of us have done wrong in Attending the American Council last fall, we are United & must turn our faces to those encroachers. The Lands belong to us all equally and it is not in the Power of one or two Nations to Dispose of them

Six Strings of Wampum

Brothers

Last Spring we sent down some Strings by one of Your People to inform You that we were Uniting and getting ready to defend ourselves & Liberty. We have as yet received no answer to them but hope You are Now fully Prepared to give Your Answer as You have had time to consider, We have allways taken council from You and expect that You will give us Your advice as You have done the Business Yourselves hitherto and are therefore more capable of Judging for us then we are, & expect that you will Speak from the bottom of Your Hearts and turn Your faces against the Americans, which will Certainly be for our General Interest ——

Six Black Strings Wampum

Brothers

You the Senecas have been known to us longer then the Other ~~Five~~ Nations You formerly had Councils together & Opposed the Virginians when the Other Nations laid Still we had more intercourse with you then we had with the rest of the Five Nations, after this we are greatly astonished to find that You in Particular, Should be with these People which You will find is not by any means for our General Interest, We Now expect Your Answer Openly That we may explain it to the Confederacy ——

Captain Brant delivered an Answer in the Name of the Five Nations (except the Senecas) as follows ——

Brethren War Chiefs of the Western Nations ——

It is very true that Your Messages have not been Answered, it is too Often the Case, for we Indians, in General are Very Dilatory we expected to have Sent You an Answer last Spring but were Disappointed as we could not come to any terms with the Americans, We also left our Business in the Hands of our Younger Brethren who we expected would have been ready to Dispatch a Messenger last Spring —— Two Strings Wampum ——

Brothers,

Every thing that You have repeated is true, and we are Happy that You Still have that attachment for us & wish to follow our advice, which You have all along attended to it is also true that we gave You the Hatchet, that we have all United and put our Heads upon our Planks, and if the Americans or any other People Strike any one of us we

we

[illegible] to us but not to go rashly to War, We were to consider [illegible] it is best to be done and to go on with Prudence [illegible] our advice. That You Brothers were by no means to strike the first people who want Your Lands, and would be glad to have an excuse. But if they encroached upon you You were then to Defend Yourselves, this we told You Plainly and we do not expect that You are to ask our advice before You Strike, because the distance between us would occasion Delay when it might be for Your Interest to Oppose them Immediately and so we are Very Happy that You did Defend Yourselves, You say that You expected to find the Five Nations looked up only to one Person, & that You now find us with the Americans, But this is not the Case, we have not come to any terms or Bound ourselves to them, nor have we done any thing that could Hurt our Interest or that of the English. We are true as we always have been, You Know that we have left the Management of our Affairs to our Younger Brethren — [illegible] the fire we cannot Determine but still wish to preserve the Same now we did before, You are not to wait for Council from us after they have encroached upon You, You must look upon Your own Strength, & we advise You, that if You can come to any reasonable Terms with these People it will in Our Opinion be best to agree with them. We hope you will continue to [illegible] Yourselves as You have hitherto done in Informing all the Nations, What Hopes [illegible] Council is Necessary for us to be United, and always to be ready to Defend ourselves &c &c —

(a Bunch of Blk Wampum)

Brethren War Chiefs of the Shawanese —

You have repeated to us the advice We gave you last Fall, We are Still of the Same Opinion, and repeat it to You how Necessary it is for us all to be United, & hope you will attend Yourselves when our Affairs require it was going on, we left the Business with You last fall and approve of What You have Done Since

Four Strings Wampum

Brothers

You have told us that the Business has not gone on as Quick as You expected, owing to a Huron Named Tayendtight ~~but~~ and that You could carry on the Business without him, as to the Delay we think You very excuseable as we Indians in General do not do Business with Dispatch We wish You every Success in carrying Your Affairs through Your New Paths

Six Strings Wampum

Brothers

You now desire us to speak from the Bottom of our Hearts and Give our Opinion and advice freely — as You Say we are better acquainted with the Business and With White People than You are, our advice to You is the Same as it was last fall when we put the Affairs of our Confederacy into Your Hands, Let us go on with Vigor but with reason There are Some People Who are rash & will go on Without reason it would be in Vain to hope for Success against the Enemy from such Proceedings, and the Worlds will blame us for Such actions as can Only Distress Individuals or Helpless People, these People must be brought Back, and those that are asleep wakened, and all brought into one Method of Proceeding for We know that there is no Such a thing as Neutrallity amongst us Indians, for Instance Brothers look back to the Eastward to the Sea, & You will finds what we Say is true that there is no Such thing as Neutrallity, we therefore must

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for our own Interest Unite, and we repeat it again that we have left our Business to You and request that You will go on with Firmness and at a reasonable from Which Conduct we have every reason to hope for Success —

Sir Thomas Warnsum

~~[illegible]~~

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the Farmers Brother (Principle Chief of the Senecas) answers the Shawanese.

Brethren War Chiefs of the Shawanese,

After You had Delivered Your Speeches from the Southward, You then began to reflect upon (Senecas) in Particular, You have Shook our Heads and told us that we were the Oldest Correspondents that You had to Oppose the Virginians and that frequent Messages Passed between us — We was with the five Nations, We did not transact Business by ourselves; We do declare to You that the Union of the Indians is for their Interest, which Confederacy we do agree to and wish to join and Support it, You also reflect upon us in Particular for being with the Americans, but we are not Conscious of having more intercourse with them than Some Other Nations, We have received the Hatchet from the King and did exert ourselves and it was by his Desire that we laid it down again, at Which time we were told to live like friends With the Americans and When we are called upon by the English We are ready to get up and Exert ourselves again —

Sir Thomas Warnsum

Proceedings of a
Council between a
Deputation of War Chiefs
from the Western Nations
and the Five Nations
Buffaloe Creek, 7th Sepr
1789

Proceedings of a Council held at Buffalo Creek, between a deputation of the War Chiefs of the Cherokee, Creeks, Shawnese and five Nations Febry 4th 1789

After the usual Ceremony of Condolence &ca had passed the Chief of the Cherokee Nation addressed the 5 Nations as follows —

Fathers

About three years Past we sent Messengers to you, but have since heard nothing of them. We are now come to see what is become of them. We have received our Council from you, and looked up to you for advice which we have Constantly followed and also took up the hatchet from you as well as by desire of the English to defend our lands and mean still to attend to what you tell us — You have taken & made our alliance Stronger, and we agreed then that if the Virginians struck one of us we were all to rise and join against them. they have now encroached upon us and have destroyed the Place of our Council fire and we have opposed them with Success in three Engagements which was only Play, but we mean all to Join and act in earnest against the Enemy.

We expected that you the five Nations Only looked up to the King our father, but we now find that you turn your faces to the Americans and talk with them, but we hope you will change your minds and be of our Opinion to oppose those land encroachers, and expect you will give us your answer Openly and one from the English — A Bunch of Black Wampum

No. 3

To the Shawnese Chiefs

Brothers —

We the Shawnese from the Miami Villages Speak to You listen to us the War, Chiefs and allies to what we are going to Say. When we went from the Miami Council last and expected to come to some agreement with the Americans to fix a boundary line between us we were disappointed, then You left the Management of the whole Affairs of the Confederacy to us — and gave us your best advice (that we might Carry On Matters Prudently) which we gladly recieved: You likewise gave it as your Opinion that we Should again Offer them Terms, but We found them so unreasonable and Still encroaching upon us, that we thought it would answer No purpose and therefore determined to Oppose them; when we thought our business to acquaint the other Nations with and Most of them have united with us against them —

A String of Wampum

Brothers

We the Shawnese at present, when we agreed to to the leadership of [illegible] Confederacy, which you the five Nations have done [illegible] that we were to attend answering the [illegible] Message. — We now attend and beg You will not think from our Small Number and few Strings that it is not the Speech of the

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the whole; it is the Voice of all the Miamis Villages therefore Attend — We should have compleated this Business sooner but the delay was occasioned by one Huron named Toyendete by whose means our belts were stopped at the Glaize Village while were going to the different Western Nations — We have fixed it so that our Business will go on now through two Channels, One by the way of Michili-makina and the Other and the other to the Westward — There are only two People who wish but cannot stop our Business as We can carry it on without them — We now declare that we mean to adhere strictly to the Confederacy by which means we can only become a People of Consequence, and am sorry to say that some of us have done wrong in attending the American Council last Fall — We are Joined and must turn our faces to those Encroachers, as the Land belongs to us all equally and is not in the Power of One or two Nations to dispose of —

Five Strings

Brothers

Last Spring we sent down some Strings by One of Your People, to inform you that we were uniting and getting Ready to defend ourselves and liberties; we have received No Answer from you, but hope you are now fully prepared to give us one, as you have had time to consider - We have always taken Council from you and expect you will give us your advice as you have done the business Yourselves hitherto and are therefore more capable of Judging for us, than we are ourselves and We do expect tho' you will Speak from the bottom of your Hearts and turn Your Faces against the Americans, which must certainly be for our General Interest

6 Black Strings

Brothers -

You the Senecas have been known to us longer than the Other Nations, and we formerly held Councils together and Opposed the Virginians, We did our Business with you, and when the other Nations laid Still we had more intercourse with you than we had with the rest of the Five Nations. After this we are greatly astonished to find that You in particular should be with these People, which you will find is by no means for our general Interest - We Now expect Your Answer Openly that we may explain it to the Confederacy

5. Captain Brant, Speaks.

War Chiefs and Brethren of the Western Nations.

It is very true that Your message has not been answered, but it is too often the case. We Indians in General are very dilatory; we expected to have sent you an Answer this Spring, but were disappointed as we could not come to Any Terms with the Americans but we left our Business in the hands of Your young Brethren who we expected would have been ready to dispatch it last Summer —

2 Strings

Captain Brant delivered an Answer in the Name of the Five Nations, the Senecas excepted —

Brothers.

Every thing that you have related is true and we are happy that you still have that attachment for us, and wish to follow our advice which you have all along attended to it is also true that we gave you the Hatchet, that we were all united and put our heads upon One plank & if the Americans or Any Other People struck any one, we were all to rise, but not to go rashly to War, but to consider together what was best to be done, and to go on with Prudence, We also gave you this advice; that you were by no means to provoke these People who want

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that you [illegible] [illegible] would be glad to have an excuse
but that if they come upon you, you must
then defend yourselves as we told you plainly,
and not expect you are to ask our advice before
you Strike because the distance between us would
occasion delay, when it might be for your
Interest to Oppose them immediately, and we are
very happy you did defend yourselves; You say
you expected to find the Six Nations looked up to one
Person, but you find us with the Americans, but
this is not the case, we have not come to any
Terms, or bound ourselves to them, nor have we done
Any thing that could hurt our Interest or that of
ye English, but we are here as we as we have al-
ways been; You know that we have left the
management of our Affairs to our Younger brethren
which we cannot determine, but still we wish to
give You the same advice we did before & that
You are not to wait for Council from us, after
They have struck, you must look upon your own
Strength, but our advice to you is that if you
Can come to any reasonable Terms with these
People it will in our opinion be best to agree
with them; We hope you will still exert your
selves as you have hitherto done in informing
all the Nations, because it is necessary for us
to be united, and if occasion requires that we
may be ready to defend our selves —

A Bunch Black Wampum —

Brothers War Chiefs of the Shawanese

You have repeated to us the advice we gave you last Fall we are Still of the same Opinion and repeat it to you how Neceſsary it is for us all to be United and hope you will attend yourselves to let us know if occasion may require how our busineſs goes On, which we left with You last Fall; and Approve of what you have done since.

4 Strings

Brothers

You have told us that the busineſs has not gone on as much as you expected oweing to a Person Named Sayendight but that you could carry on the busineſs without him, as to the delay we think it very excuseable as we Indians in general do not do busineſs with dispatch. We wish You more Succeſs in doing Your busineſs through Your New paths —

6 Strings

Brothers

You now desire us to Speak from the bottom of our hearts and to give our Opinion and advice freely as you say we are better acquainted with the busineſs, and with white people than You are, our advice to you is the same as it was last Fall, when we put the Affairs of our Confederacy into your hands.

Let us go on with reason, but with vigor also. there are some People who are rash and will go on without reason, it would be in vain to hope for success against the enemy from such Proceedings and the World will blame us, for such actions as can only distress individuals and helpless People. These People must be brot back and those that are asleep awakened and all brought into one method of Proceeding, for we know there is no such thing as Neutrality amongst us Indians. For instance Brothers, look back to the eastward to the Sea and you'll find what we say is true; We must therefore for our own interest unite. we repeated to you that we had left our business in your hands and request that you will go on with firmness and act reasonable, from which Conduct we have every reason to hope, for Success —

6 Strings

The Farmers Brother Principal Chief of the Senecas — Answered the Shawanese as follows

Brothers

After you had delivered your Speeches from the Southward you began to reflect upon

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Upon us Senecas in particular, and shook our Heads, you told us that we were the oldest correspondents that you had to oppose the Virginians and that frequent Messages pass'd between us — But we were with the Five Nations and did not transact any business by ourselves We do declare to you that the uniting the Indians is for their Interest which confederacy we do agree to, and wish to Join and support it

You reflect upon us in Particular for Being with the Americans, but we are conscious of not having more intercourse with them than some other Nations. Its true that we have Received the Hatchet from the King our Father and we did exert ourselves, by his desire we laid it down again at which time Were told to lay still and be friends with the Americans and when we are called upon by the English we are ready to get up and shew ourselves —

6 Strings

Private Council of the Five Nations except the Senecas)

We are determined to be punctual to our agreement with the western Nations which we enter'd into three Years ago, and mean to move to the other side of the Water as soon as we conveniently Can which will be this Fall after we have gathered our Corn, during which time you can go on with the business of our Confederacy —

4 Strings

Proceedings of a Council
held at Buffaloe Creek
7th of Jan.r 1779

Proceedings of a Council Held at Buffaloe Creek between the Five Nations and the War Chiefs of the Cherokees and Shawanese Indians 7th September 1789.

The Chiefs of the Cherokees adressed the Five Nations as follows — (After the Usual Ceremonies of Condolence had passed) —

Brothers.

About three Years ago we sent Messengers to You but have since heard Nothing of them we are now Come to see what is become of them, We have received our Council fire from You and looked up to You for advice, which we have constantly followed, and also took up the Hatchet from you as well as by desire of the English, to Defend our Lands, and wish still to Attend to Your advice, You have lately made our Alliance Stronger. When we agreed if the Virginians Struck one of us we were all to rise & Join against them, They have now encroached upon us and destroyed our Council fire place, but we have opposed them with Success in three Engagements which was only Play but we all mean to join and act in earnest against the Enemy. We expected that You the five Nations looked up only to the King our Father, but we now find that You turn Your faces with the Americans, and talk with them, We hope you will Change Your minds and be of our Opinion to oppose those Land encroachers. and we now expect Your answer openly, and also one from the English. —

A painted String of Black Wampum

Chief of the Shawonese —

Brothers. We the Shawonese from the Miamis Villages listen to us the War Chiefs and attend to what we are a going to say, When we went from the Miami Council last fall and expected to come to some agreement with the Americans in order to fix a Boundary line between us, we were Disappointed. then You left the Management of the Affairs of our Confederacy to ourselves and gave us Your Best advice that we might carry on matters prudently which we Gladly received. You likewise gave Your opinion that we should again offer them terms but, we found them so unreasonable and Still encroaching upon us, that we thought it would answer no Purpose and therefore Determined to oppose them, which we thought, our Duty to acquaint the Other Nations with, and most of them have United with us against them. —

Four Strings of Wampum

Brothers. You likewise told us last fall when we agreed to do the Business of the Confederacy which You the Five Nations had done before, that we was to attend ourselves and not to send Messages; We now attend and beg you will not think from our small Number and few strings that it is not the whole that Speaks to You it is the voice of all the Miami Villages, therefore attend, We should have compleated this Business sooner but the Delay was occasioned by a Huron Named Tayendeghte who was the means of Stopping our Belts at Elks Heart Village. These Belts were going to the Different Western nations but we have now fixed it so that our Business will go on through two Channels one by the way of Michilimackinac and the other through the Western Country, there are only two people who wish, but cannot Stop our Business as we can carry it on without them, We now declare that we mean to adhere Strictly to the Confederacy by which only we can become a people of Consequence, and are sorry to say that Some of us have done Wrong in Attending the American Council last fall. we are United & must turn our faces to those encroachers. The Lands belong to us all equally and it is not in the power of one or two Nations to Dispose of it. —

Six Strings of Wampum

Brothers,

Last spring we sent down some Strings by one of your people to inform you that we were Uniting and getting ready to Defend ourselves & Libertys. We have as yet received no answer to them, but Hope you are Now fully prepared to give Your Answer as you have had time to Consider, We have always taken council from you and expect that you will give us your advice, as You have done the Business Yourselves hitherto and are therefore more capable of Judgeing for us then we are & Expect that you will speak from the bottom of your hearts and turn Your faces against the Americans which will Certainly be for our General Interest —

Six Black Strings Wampum

Brothers.

You the Senecas have been known to us longer than the other Nations and we formerly had Councils together and offered the Virginians

War. Where the other Nations laid Still we had more intercourse with you then we had with the rest of the Five Nations, after this we are greatly astonished to find that you in particular Should be with these people which you will find is not by any means for our General Interest, We now Expect Your Answer Openly That we may explain it to the Confederacy. —

Captain Brant delivered an Answer in the Name of the Five Nations (except the Senecas) as follows. —

Brethren War Chiefs of the Western Nations. —

It is very true that your meſsages have not been answered, it is too Often the case, for we Indians in General are very Dilatory we expected to have Sent you an Answer last spring but were Disappointed as we could not come to any terms with the Americans, We also left our Busineſs in the Hands of our Younger Bretheren, Shawanese who we expected would have been ready to dispatch a Meſsenger last Spring. —

Two Strings Wampum

Brothers. Every thing that you have repeated is true and we are Happy that You Still have that Attachment for us and wish to follow our advice, which You have all along attended to it is also true that we gave you the Hatchet, that we have all United and put our Heads upon one Plank, and if the Americans or any other people Struck one of us we were all to rise but not to go rashly to war, We were to Consider together —

what was best to be done, and to go on with prudence we also gave you this advice, That you were by no means to provoke these people, who want your Lands and would be glad to have an Excuse. But if they encroached upon you You were then to Defend yourselves; This we told you plainly and we do not expect that you are to ask our advice before you Strike becau the Distance between us would occasion Delay when it might be for your Interest to Oppose them immediately and we are very Happy that you did Defend yourselves, You say that you expected to find the Five Nations looked up only to one person, and that You now find us with the Americans, But this is not the Case, we have not come to any terms or Bound ~~bound~~ ourselves to them nor have we done any thing that could Hurt our Interest or that of the English, We are true as we always have been, You know that we have left the Management of our Affairs to our Younger Brethren. Therefore we cannot determine, but Still wish to give You the same advice we did before, You are not to wait for council from us after they have encroached upon You. You must look upon Your own strength, and we advise you, that if You can come to any reasonable Terms with these people it will in our Opinion be best to agree with them, We hope you will continue to exert Yourselves as you have hitherto done, in informing all the Nations of What passes, because it is

Neceſsary for us to be United, and always to be ready to Defend Ourselves. &c —

A Bunch of Bl:k Wampum

Brethren War Chiefs of the Shawanese —

You have repeated to us the advice We gave you last fall We are Still of the same opinion and repeat it to you how Neceſsary it is for us all to be United and hope you will attend Yourselves, where our affairs require it how you go on, we left the Busineſs with you last fall and approve of what You have done Since. —

Four Strings Wampum

Brothers,

You have told us that the Busineſs has not gone on as quick as you expected Owing to a Huron Named Tayendight, and that you could carry on the Busineſs without him, as to the Delay we think you very excuseable as we Indians in General do not do Busineſs with dispatch We wish you every Succeſs in carring your affairs through Your New Paths &c — Six Strings Wampum

Brothers,

You now desire us to speak from the Bottom of our Hearts and give our opinion and advice freely, as you Say we are better acquainted with the Busineſs and with White people then you are, our advice to you is the same as it was last fall when we put the affairs of our Confederacy into Your hands, Let us go on with Vigor but with reason There are some people who are rash & will go on without reason, it would be in vain to hope for Succeſs against the Enemy from such proceedings, and the World will blame us for such actions as can only Distreſs Individuals or

Helpleſs people, these people must be brought back and those that are asleep wakened, and all brought into one Method of proceeding, for we know that there is no such a thing as Neutrality amongst us Indians, for Instance Brothers look back to the Eastward to the Sea, & you will find what we say is true that there is no such thing as Neutrality; we therefore must for our own Interest Unite, and we repeat it again that we have left our Busineſs to you and request that you will go on with Firmneſs and act reasonable from which Conduct, we have every reason to hope for Succeſs. ——

Six Strings Wampum

The Farmers Brother, (principle Chief of the Senecas.) Answered, The Shawnese, ——

Brethren War Chiefs of the Shawnese ——

After You had Delivered your speeches from the Southward, you then began to reflect upon us (Senecas) in particular, You have Shook our Heads & told us that we were the Oldest Correspondents that you had, to oppose the Virginians and that frequent Meſsages Paſsed between us —— We was with the five Nations, We did not transact Busineſs by ourselves, & we do declare to you that the Uniting the Indians is for their Interest, which Confederacy we do agree to and wish to join and support it, You also reflect upon us in particular for being with the

Americans, but we are not conscious of having more intercourse with them then some other Nations. We have received the Hatchet from the King and did exert ourselves, and it was by his Desire that we laid it down again; at which time we were told to lay Still and be friends with the Americans & when we are called upon by the English, We are ready to get up and Shew ourselves again; ——

Six Strings Wampum

The Same as in the Subsequent Days

Proceedings of a Council held at Buffaloe Creek, between a Deputation of the War Chiefs of the Cherokee, Creek, Shawnese and Five Nations Sept. 7th. 1789 ——

After the usual Ceremony of condolence &ca. had paſsed the Chief of the Cherokee Nation addreſsed the Five Nations as follows ——

Brothers.

About three Years past we sent Meſsengers to You, but have since heard nothing of them, We are now come to see what is become of them —— we have received our Council from you, and looked up to you for advice which we have Constantly followed, and also took up the hatchet from you as well as by desire of the English to Defend our Lands and mean Still to attend to what you tell us. You have lately made our alliance Stronger, and to hope for Success against the Enemy from such proceedings and the world will blame us for such Actions as can only distress individuals and helpless people, These people must be brought back and those that are asleep awakened and all brought into one method of proceeding for we know there is no such thing as Neutrality amongst us Indians. For instance, Brothers, look back to the eastward & the sea & you'll find what we say is true; We must therefore for our own Interest unite, we repeated to you that we had left our business in your hands and request that you will go on with firmness & act reasonable, from which conduct we have every reason to hope for Success.

5 Rings

The Farmers Brother Principal Chief of the Senecas - Answered the Shawanese as follows.

Brothers,

After you had delivered your speeches from the southward you began to reflect upon us Senecas in particular, and shook our heads you told us that we were the eldest correspondents that you had to oppose the Virginians and that frequent frequent Messages passed between us. But we were with the Five Nations and did not transact any business by ourselves We do declare to you that the uniting the Indians is for their Interest which Confederacy we do agree to.

and wish to Join and Support it.

You reflect upon us in particular for being with the Americans, but we are conscious of not having more intercourse with them than some other Nations. Its true that we have Received the Hatchet from the King our Father and we did exert ourselves, by his desire we laid it down again at which time we were told to lay still and be friends with the Americans and when we are called upon by the English we are ready to get up and shew ourselves. ——

6 Strings

Private Council of the Five Nations (except the Senecas)

We are Determined to be punctual to our Agreement with the Western Nations which we enter'd into three years ago, and mean to move to the other side of the water as soon as we conveniently Can which will be this Fall After we have gather'd our Corn, During which time You can go on with the business of our Confederacy. ——

4 Strings.

New York, *September* 14, 1789.

Sir:

The constant hostilities between the Indians who live upon the river Wabash, and the people of Kentucky, must necessarily be attended with such embarrassing circumstances to the Government of the Western territory, that I am induced to request you will be pleased to take the matter into consideration, and give me the orders you may think proper.

It is not to be expected, sir, that the Kentucky people will, or can, submit patiently to the cruelties and depredations of those savages; they are in the habits of retaliation, perhaps without attending precisely to the nations from which the injuries are received. They will continue to retaliate, or they will apply to the Governor of the Western country (through which the Indians must pass to attack them) for redress; if he cannot redress them, (and in present circumstances he cannot) they also will march through that country, to redress themselves, and the Government will be laid prostrate. The United States, on the other hand, are at peace with several of the nations; and, should the resentment of those people fall upon any of them, which it is likely enough may happen, very bad consequences will follow: for it must appear to them that the United States either pay no regard to their treaties, or that they are unable or unwilling to carry their engagements into effect. Remonstrances will probably be made by them also to the Governor, and he will be found in a situation, from which he can neither redress the one, nor protect the other. They will unite with the hostile nations, prudently preferring open war to a delusive and uncertain peace.

By a resolution of the late Congress, the Governor of the Western territory had power, in case of hostilities, to call upon Virginia and Pennsylvania for a number of men to act in conjunction with the continental troops, and carry war into the Indian settlements. That resolution, it is now supposed, is no longer in force; the revival of it might be of use, as it would tend to conciliate the Western People, by shewing them that they were not unattended to; and would, in some measure, justify me in holding a language to the Indians which might obviate the necessity of employing force against them. The handful of troops, sir, that are scattered in that country, though they may afford protection to some settlements, cannot possibly act offensively by themselves.

I have the honor to be, sir,
Your obedient and most humble servant,

The President *of the United States.*

AR. ST. CLAIR.

1st Congress.] **No. 6.** [1st Session.

THE SIX NATIONS, THE WYANDOTS, AND OTHERS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE SEPTEMBER 17, 1789.

Gentlemen of the Senate:

It doubtless is important that all treaties and compacts, formed by the United States with other nations, whether civilized or not, should be made with caution, and executed with fidelity.

It is said to be the general understanding and practice of nations, as a check on the mistakes and indiscretions of ministers or commissioners, not to consider any treaty, negotiated and signed by such officers, as final and conclusive, until ratified by the Sovereign or Government from whom they derive their powers. This practice has been adopted by the United States, respecting their treaties with European nations, and I am inclined to think it would be advisable to observe it in the conduct of our treaties with the Indians: for though such treaties, being on their part made by their chiefs or rulers, need not be ratified by them, yet, being formed on our part, by the agency of subordinate officers, it seems to be both prudent and reasonable, that their acts should not be binding on the nation, until approved and ratified by the Government.

It strikes me that this point should be well considered and settled, so that our national proceedings in this respect may become uniform, and be directed by fixed and stable principles.

The treaties with certain Indian nations, which were laid before you with my message of the 25th May last, suggested two questions to my mind, viz: 1st. Whether those treaties were to be considered as perfected, and consequently as obligatory, without being ratified; if not, then 2dly. Whether both, or either, and which of them ought to be ratified; on these questions, I request your opinion and advice.

You have indeed advised me "*to execute and enjoin an observance of,*" the treaty with the Wyandots, &c. You, gentlemen, doubtless, intended to be clear and explicit, and yet, without further explanation, I fear I may misunderstand your meaning; for if, by my *executing* that treaty, you mean that I should make it (in a more particular and immediate manner than it now is) the act of Government, then it follows, that I am to ratify it. If you mean by my *executing it*, that I am to see that it be carried into effect and operation, then I am led to conclude, either that you consider it as being perfect and obligatory in its present state, and, therefore, to be executed and observed; or, that you consider it as to derive its completion and obligation from the silent approbation and ratification which my proclamation may be construed to imply. Although I am inclined to think that the latter is your intention, yet it certainly is best that all doubts respecting it be removed.

Permit me to observe, that it will be proper for me to be informed of your sentiments relative to the treaty with the Six Nations, previous to the departure of the Governor of the Western territory; and, therefore, I recommend it to your early consideration.

GEO. WASHINGTON.

September 17th, 1789.

1st Congress.] **No. 7.** [1st Session.

INDIAN TREATIES.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE SEPTEMBER 18, 1789.

Mr. Carroll, to whom was referred a message from the President of the United States of the 17th of September, 1789, made the following report:

That the signature of treaties with the Indian nations has ever been considered as a full completion thereof; and that such treaties have never been solemnly ratified by either of the contracting parties, as hath been commonly practised among the civilized nations of Europe: wherefore, the committee are of opinion, that the formal ratification of the treaty concluded at fort Harmar, on the 9th day of January, 1789, between Arthur St. Clair, Governor of the Western territory, on the part of the United States, and the sachems and warriors of the Wyandot, Delaware, Ottawa, Chippewa, Pattiwatima, and Sac Nations, is not expedient or necessary; and that the resolve of the Senate, of the 8th September, 1789, respecting the said treaty, authorizes the President to enjoin a due observance thereof.

That, as to the treaty made at fort Harmar, on the 9th of January, 1789, between the said Arthur St. Clair, and the sachems and warriors of the Six Nations, (except the Mohawks) from particular circumstances affecting a part of the ceded lands, the Senate did not judge it expedient to pass any act concerning the same.

1st Congress.] **No. 8.** [2d Session.

THE CREEKS.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE JANUARY 11, 1790.

Gentlemen of the Senate:

Having advised with you upon the terms of a treaty to be offered to the Creek nation of Indians, I think it proper you should be informed of the result of that business, previous to its coming before you in your legislative capacity.

I have therefore directed the Secretary for the Department of War to lay before you my instructions* to the commissioners, and their report in consequence thereof.

The apparently critical state of the southern frontier will render it expedient for me to communicate to both Houses of Congress, with other papers, the whole of the transactions relative to the Creeks, in order that they may be enabled to form a judgment of the measures which the case may require.

GEO. WASHINGTON.

United States, *January 11th*, 1790.

1st Congress.] **No. 9.** [2d Session.

SOUTHERN TRIBES.

COMMUNICATED TO CONGRESS JANUARY 12, 1790.

Gentlemen of the Senate
and of the House of Representatives:

I lay before you a statement of the Southwestern frontiers, and of the Indian Department, which have been submitted to me by the Secretary for the Department of War.

I conceive that an unreserved, but *confidential* communication of all the papers relative to the recent negotiations with some of the Southern tribes of Indians, is indispensably requisite, for the information of Congress. I am persuaded that they will effectually prevent either transcripts or publications of all such circumstances as might be injurious to the public interests.

GEO. WASHINGTON.

United States, *January 12*, 1790.

The Secretary of War to the President of the United States.

War Office, *January 4th*, 1790.

Sir:

I humbly beg leave to submit to your consideration, a general statement of the Indian Department, and of the Southwestern frontiers, the same being intimately blended together.

The invitation of the United States to the Creek nation of Indians, to treat of peace on terms of mutual advantages, has not been accepted.

The report of the commissioners, A, will fully shew the precarious state of this business.

The assurances, given by some of the chiefs, of the peaceable intentions of the Creek nation, are too uncertain in their nature, even if sincere, for the United States to rely upon.

The case seems to require an adequate provisional

more agreeably to Your wishes, As I
hold it to be my Duty as well as Incli-
ation to promote any affair You recom
end to me on every occasion: I have
the Honor to be with great Sincerity
Respect And Regard Honored Dear Sr

Your most obedient
most Dutiful:
most Devoted hu:

St Regis the 9 Novr 1769

Servant Rd McDonel

P.S.

The Indians Say that When Colone
Campbell went home, he wrote You;
give them a Boxe of Window glasses,
putty And two Barrells, nails, that You
promised all this to them; but did no
as Yet give it: they therefore beg You w
be pleased to ~~give~~ order them to the Bea
who is one of the Head Chiefs of the
village, as it will oblige them a
very much. RMD:

M. Regis 10 Oct 1784
from Mr Donell
the Priest

(244)

Sir

Knowing Your Sentiments respecting the Indian Lands, And having Been given to understand, tha You wished I would endeavour to prevail with the Indians to grant their Lands in Cornwall and Charlottenbourg to Goverment, And send a Satisfactory answer to You relative to that affair, I beg leave to assure you that I lost no time in exerting my endeavo to promote that business, nor could I think of any argument of which I did not avail myself on the Subject. After holding many Councils & weighing this matter with matu deliberation, they almost consent to grant their lands, but upon such high terms as I believe will not be accepted of by You —

They ask £60 Halifax Curry a

Year to be secured to them forever besides 200 pounds Hal: Cury to be paid in ready cash. They add ~~s~~ two or three more conditions of small importance.

If more reasonable terms canot be had from them, You may rest assured I would do all in my power to procure them: but it is my opinion they never will grant their Lands upon more reasonable terms, unless they are compelled to do so, which is a Mode of proceeding I would by no means approve of particularly in regard of Indians —

The Chiefs themselves, Gray And the whole of the Village will attest what pains & trouble, I have been at, to bring the Indians to terms of agreement, if I have not as yet Succeeded, it is Intirely owing to those Stuborn people, who value exceedingly their Lands, And

Seem to be inflexible, on the whole of this affair. They repeatedly told me that, their Father Wanochfiisa did not Seem to care for the Lands, & said that he never Spoke to them himself or wrote them on the Subject that the Message delivered to them by Mr Lorromier Some time ago, did not Show any great desir in their Father for having these Lands, as he himself was then in their neighbourhood, but never called them to speak on the Subject, and moreover that he never wrote me on the subject. —

You may freely command me to make mention of any thing You please relative to this affair, And having authority from You wt. what influence I may have with them I humbly hope to Succeed more

Speech of Gayashuta an ancient Chief of the Seneca Nation on the borders of Pennsylvania as given in charge by him to one of the Sachems of that Nation, in the year 1790, to be delivered to the Friends of Philadelphia —

Brothers, the sons of my beloved Brother Onas,*

When I was young and strong our country was full of game which the good Spirit sent for us to live upon; the lands which belonged to us were extended far beyond where we hunted; I and the People of my Nation had enough to eat, and always something to give to our friends when they entered our cabins; and we rejoiced when they received it from us: hunting was then not tiresome, it was diversion, it was a pleasure:

Brothers,

When your Fathers asked land from my Nation, we gave it to them, for we had more than enough. Gayashuta was amongst the first of the People to say, "Give land to our brother Onas, for he wants it;" and he has always been a friend to Onas and to his Childre

Brothers,

Your Fathers saw Gayashuta when he was young; when he had not even thought of old age or weakness: but you are too far off to see him, now he is grown ol He is very old and feeble, & he wonders at hi own shadow, it is become so little. He has no children to take care of him and the game is driven away by the white people, so that the young men must hunt all day long to find game for themselves to eat; they have nothing left for Gayashuta. And it is not Gayashu only who is become old and feeble. There yet remain about thirty men of your old frien who, unable to provide for themselves or to f one another, are become poor and are hungry and naked.

Brothers,

Gayashuta sends you a belt whic he received long ago from your Fathers, an a writing which he received but as yesterday from one of you. By these you will remember him & the old friends of your Fathers in this Nation. Look on this belt and this writing, and if you remember the old friends of your Fathers, consider their former friendship & their present distress, and if the Good Spirit shall put it into your hearts to comfort them in their old age, do not disregard his counsel. — We are men and therefore need only tell you that we are old and feeble and hungry and naked, & that we have no other friends than you, the children of our beloved brother Onas.

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* Onas is the Indian word for a quill, & by that name they speak of William Penn.

Speech of
the Indian
Chief _Guayashuta_
to the descendents of
W. Penn.
1790 -